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THE HISTORY of the FINCH FAMILY

by

BRYAN I'ANSON

Author of The History of The Armitage Family
Banastre Records, Wightman Records etc etc

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The Right Hon^{ble} Henry Earl of Nottingham, Baron Finch of Daventry, Lord High Chancellor of England, and one of the Lords of his Ma^{ties} most Hon^{ble} Privy Council. & Juno Dom^{us} 1681

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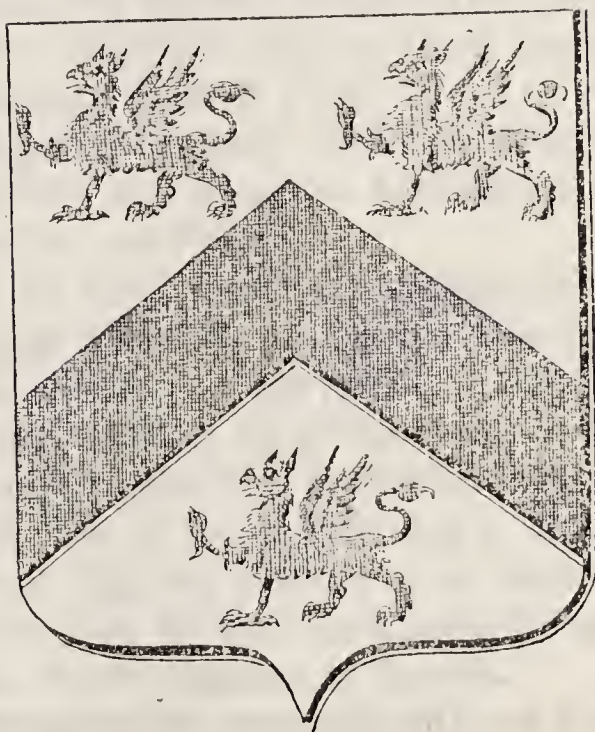
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

IT can with every confidence be said that no English family of the present day can claim to have a more distinguished and illustrious ancestry than the Finch Family.

This book contains records of the Finch descent over a period of some fourteen hundred years, and it overflows with records of illustrious persons during the whole of this period.

Commencing, as it does, in the early centuries of the Christian Era, with the famous chieftain, Pippin of Landen, and continuing through Pippin of Heristal, Charles the Great (Charlemagne), Pippin and Bernard, Kings of Italy, all famous and successful warriors, to the Counts of Vermandois, allies of the ancestors of William of Normandy, the entry is made with the Conqueror into England in the person of Herbert Fitz-Peter of Vermandois who, fighting with his men amongst the warriors who joined the Conqueror in the Battle of Hastings in 1066, is rewarded by his King for valour and services with substantial grants of land in this Country.

In such high esteem are they held that for three successive generations they occupied the post of Chamberlain to their King.

A grandson of the Hastings warrior, evidently inheriting the nature of his ancestor Carloman, turns priest and becomes Archbishop of York, to be, in the following century, Canonised by the Pope.

During the reign of King John, they rank amongst the Norman Barons, who, desirous of seeing to the proper administration of the country, compel that wayward Monarch to execute Magna Charta at Runnymede in 1215, two of them actually witnessing ; and again, in the reign of King Henry III, bringing pressure to bear which resulted in that Monarch executing a confirmation of the same Charter.

On this King's behalf, one of these ancestors is entrusted with the King's forces against the Welsh, when, fighting valiantly at the head of his forces, he is slain.

Continuing through the ages, we find them controlling affairs in the Counties where they held possessions, in the capacity of Sheriffs.

About this time, there comes the marriage with the daughter and sole heiress of the Lord of the Manor of Finch, in Kent.

Surnames during the preceding period were in their infancy. It was customary to distinguish a man as the son of his father by the prefix, "Fitz." Thus Matthew, the son of Heribert or Herbert, was Matthew Fitz-Herbert, and if he had a son Herbert, the said Herbert would be Herbert Fitz-Matthew, and so on.

Names of places began to be adopted as permanent surnames, just, as later, a man was surnamed by the trade or occupation in which he was engaged. Thus a permanent surname became fixed upon these descendants of Charlemagne, and to-day they are known as the Finch family, so far as this country is concerned, and this work is not concerned with the descendants in France of the present time of

the Counts of Vermandois. Some reader may at his leisure dip further into the subject and follow up the records of the House of Vermandois down to the present time.

Now the Finch family begin to spread into neighbouring and even distant counties.

The surname, Finch, being a place surname, and adopted at a time when definite surnames were only in the very early period of formation, it can hardly be suggested that these late 13th and early 14th century Finches came of any but this parent stock.

The bearing of the same Arms in itself would, at that period, constitute almost complete proof as, for another to adopt or usurp Arms to which he was not entitled, was treated with the utmost severity, there being a case on record where this crime was punished by a period of imprisonment for nineteen years.

The Arms of Finch were adopted by Herbert Fitz-Herbert as, by the result of his marriage, he became Lord of the Manor of Finch "Jure uxoris," and the Heralds of that time would confirm the adoption.

In the reign of Edward III we find descendants of Finch in Suffolk and Hertfordshire.

It is known that Nicholas Finch and his sons went from Sussex into Hertfordshire, and it may be that he had a numerous family, and that some of them were the first of the name in Suffolk. Descendants of Nicholas Finch have been interred in Redbourne Church as early as the reign of Edward III, and continued to be so interred down to the reign of King Henry VIII.

It may be remarked that there appears to be some difference in the Arms borne by certain members of the Finch family and that, therefore, it may be that more than one original family exists. Clearly, however, this is not the case. In the whole period down to the 16th century there is only one variation of these Arms.

Finch of Sandwich, Coldred, and some other places in Kent, along with the Finch family in Hertford and Suffolk, have their Arms recorded and "tricked" by the Heralds as "a chevron engrailed" &c, whereas the main line has a plain chevron. This, however, was merely the manner in which the Heralds in the early days drew a distinction between one branch of the family and another before the adoption of "brisures."

It is, really, quite remarkable that there has been so little variation of these Arms in order to accomplish this object. In the case of many families there have been so many variations as to make it almost difficult to "unearth" the original stock.

Instances of such variations may be quoted from the records of Arms of the Herbert ancestry of the Finch family. The original Arms of Herbert are :—Gules, three lions rampant Or. Matthew Fitz-Reginald was distinguished from the main stock, he being the third son of his father, by the following Arms :—Gules, three lions rampant Or, within a bordure engrailed Argent, whilst his brother, Peter, had for Arms :—Party per pale Azure and Gules, three lions rampant Argent.

It is only necessary to refer to the biographies which appear later in this book to observe the eminence to which many of the Finch ancestors have risen.

In the Frontispiece we have a Lord Chancellor. Than Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham, there could be no more distinguished Statesman, or one who could be said to have set a finer example of honesty and integrity.

In accumulating the material for illustrating this book, every effort has been made to secure all items of real interest to members of the family. Thus the Mansions and residences of importance appear. Burley, the seat of the 2nd Earl of Nottingham, Packington Hall, that of the Earls of Aylesford, and so on.

The illustrations of Arms include grants made in comparatively recent years, and these are fully described.

Amongst the biographies will be found a short account of Margaret Finch, Queen of the Gypsies, and it is illustrated from an old engraving. Her parentage is not known, but it was considered an item which, desiring to make the records as complete as practicable, the Author felt bound to place amongst these records.

Several hundred wills have been examined in the Prerogative Court, and in many Provincial Probate Registries, but it has been impracticable to print genealogical extracts of these.

CHAPTER 2

THE COUNTS OF VERMANDOIS AND THEIR ANCESTRY

THE descent of Finch from the family of Herbert, Count of Vermandois, having, as will be seen in the following chapters, been conclusively established, it became necessary to follow the descent of the Count of Vermandois in early French history.

It has been an interesting pursuit, and it has been possible to take the pedigree back for several generations commencing with an ancestor living some 500 years prior to the Battle of Hastings where a descendant of the Count of Vermandois, supported William of Normandy and was awarded considerable grants of land in this country.

The earliest known ancestor is Pippin of Landen, Mayor of the Palace during the sixth century, A.D. Landen is in the neighbourhood of Liège, and Pippin of Landen had accumulated great possessions and was foremost amongst the landed chieftains of his time. He had great ability, vigour, and keenness in War, and from him, his descendants inherited these gifts. They steadily gathered lands chiefly on the Rhine until, by the time of Pippin of Heristal (his grandson), they were the wealthiest house in Austrasia. There was also a remarkable succession of great men. Four generations from Pippin of Heristal to Charles the Great (Charlemagne) pass without a sign of weakness.

The office of Mayor of the Palace is Teutonic in origin. The position was held for life and carried with it the chief command in war, and involved certain duties of rude justice. From Chamberlain to Regent, from Regent to Duke, from Duke to King, from King to Emperor of the West ; so rose the fortunes of the office with the great aristocratic family which held it until it reached its highest in the person of Charlemagne, inheritor of the imperial name, and of almost more than imperial power.

The son of the great Pippin of Landen was Grimoald, and he became the Austrasian Mayor of the Palace, succeeding his father. He banished Sigebert, King of Austrasia, to an Irish Monastery, and proclaimed one of his own sons as King. The Leudes, however, all rose against him, took him and his son and sent them to Hlodowig II who put them to death.

Pippin of Heristal, however, a son of Grimoald, came to the fore, and in the year 678, the Austrasians chose him and Martin as Mayors of the Palace. Martin, however, was murdered, and Pippin of Heristal controlled alone. He fought and won the battle of Testry in the year 687. Testry is in the Vermandois near St. Quentin. From that day dates the decline of Merwing royalty, and Pippin's house became absolute. Pippin of Heristal became Duke of the Franks in 714. He had two sons, Grimoald, Neustrian Mayor of the Palace 714, and Charles Martel, Duke of Austrasia and Mayor of the Palace 715-741.

Charles Martel had two sons, Carloman, and Pippin the Short. Carloman was

Duke and Prince of Franks from 741-747, and had Austrasia, Thuringia and Swabia. Pippin, his younger brother, had Neustria, Burgundy and Provence. Carloman made St. Boniface, the English monk and missionary, Archbishop of Mainz.

In the year 747 Carloman resigned in favour of his brother, Pippin, and went to Rome. There he became a monk. He desired solitude and, it having become a habit for his old associates whenever on pilgrimage or otherwise to call and visit him, he retired to the Monastery of St. Benedict in the Monte Casino.

Thus, in the year 747, Pippin the Short ruled absolutely, and being elected King in 752, reigned as an absolute monarch until his death in the year 768. He left two sons, Charles and Carloman. Charles, known afterwards as Charles the Great (Charlemagne) became King of Neustria on his father's death, and his brother, Carloman, King of Austrasia. Carloman, however, died in 771, when Charlemagne became King of all Franks, and three years later King of Franks and Lombardy (774), and from the year 800 until his death in 814 at the age of 71, Emperor of the Franks. During his later life, Charlemagne, who had three sons by his first wife, made his son Charles, King of Neustria in 811, and his son Pippin, King of Italy in 781. His son Hludwig succeeded him as Emperor on his death in 814. Pippin, his second son, made King of Italy, died during his father's lifetime (810) and was succeeded by his son, Bernard.

Hludwig I called an assembly of all the Franks in 817 and created two kingdoms under the Empire. His second son, Pippin, had Aquitania ; Hludwig, his third son had Bavaria. He stipulated that these lesser Kings should not make either war, or peace, or cede town or territory without his leave. He imposed like conditions on his nephew, Bernard, King of Italy who, however, defied him, and set out to fight him. Bernard, however, was deserted by his men, and, consequently, surrendered at Chalons-sur-Saone. By the Frankish assembly he was then condemned to death. He was slain, and the kingdom of Italy passed to Hludwig's son, Hlothair. Hludwig had other three sons : Pippin, King of Aquitania, Hludwig, King of Germany, and Charles II (the Bald) King of Neustria and Burgundy.

Bernard's son, Pippin, became Count of Vermandois, and left two sons, Heribert (or Herbert) who succeeded as Count of Vermandois, and Pippin, who became Count of Valois. Herbert, Count of Vermandois, was driven out of France by the barons about 929, and he took refuge with Henry, King of the Germans. On the death of Rudolf of Burgundy in 936, he appears to have returned and joined with Hugh le Blanc, Duke of Burgundy, and William Longsword of Normandy. He was instrumental in bringing Hludwig Outremar from the Court of King Athelstan in England, and continued to flourish as Count of Vermandois until his death in the year 943.

On his death he was succeeded by his son Herbert who, dying in the year 987, was succeeded by his son Albert, he being in turn succeeded by his son Herbert in the year 1000.

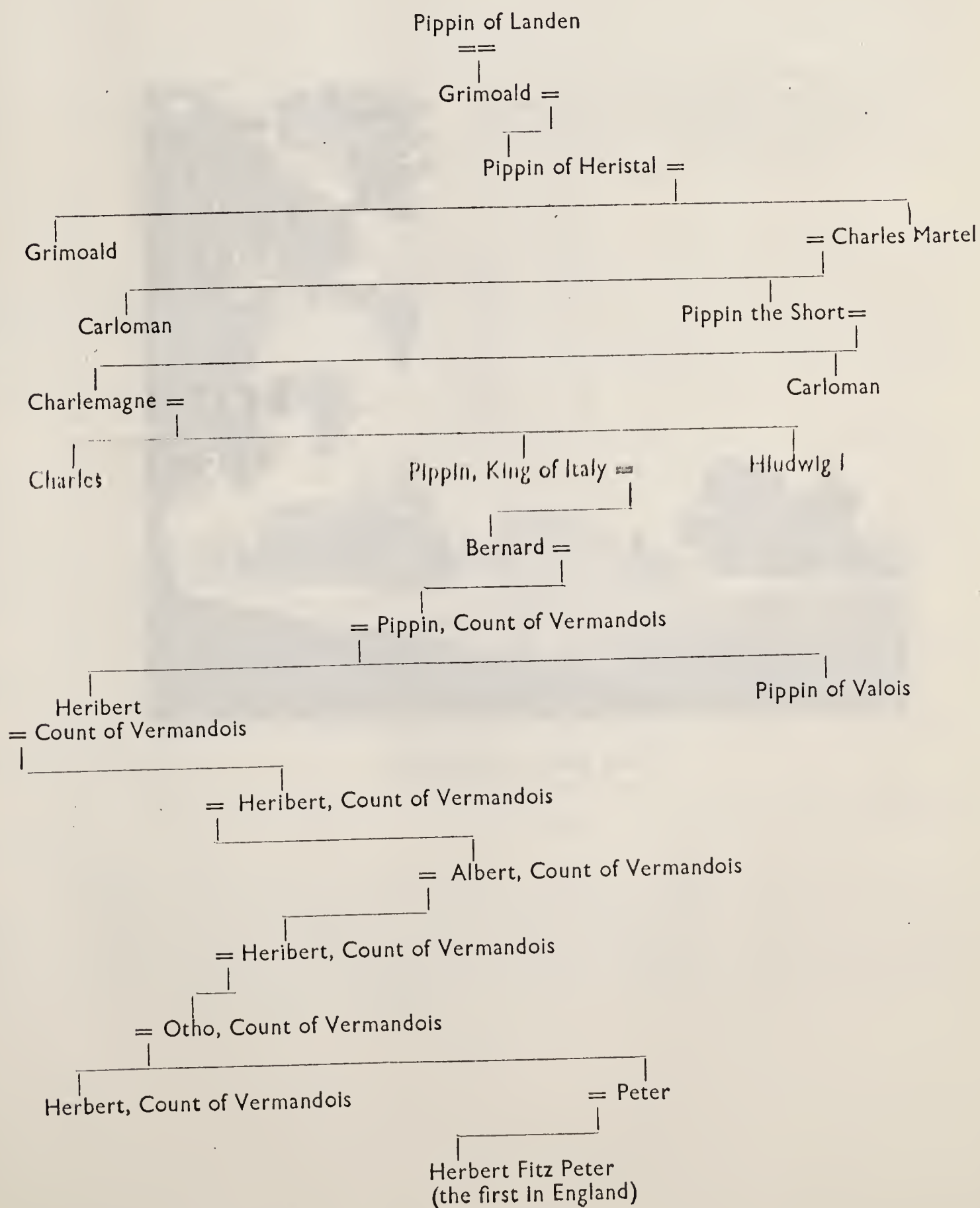
It is interesting to note from the perusal of French records of this period the close association which existed between the ancestors of William of Normandy, and

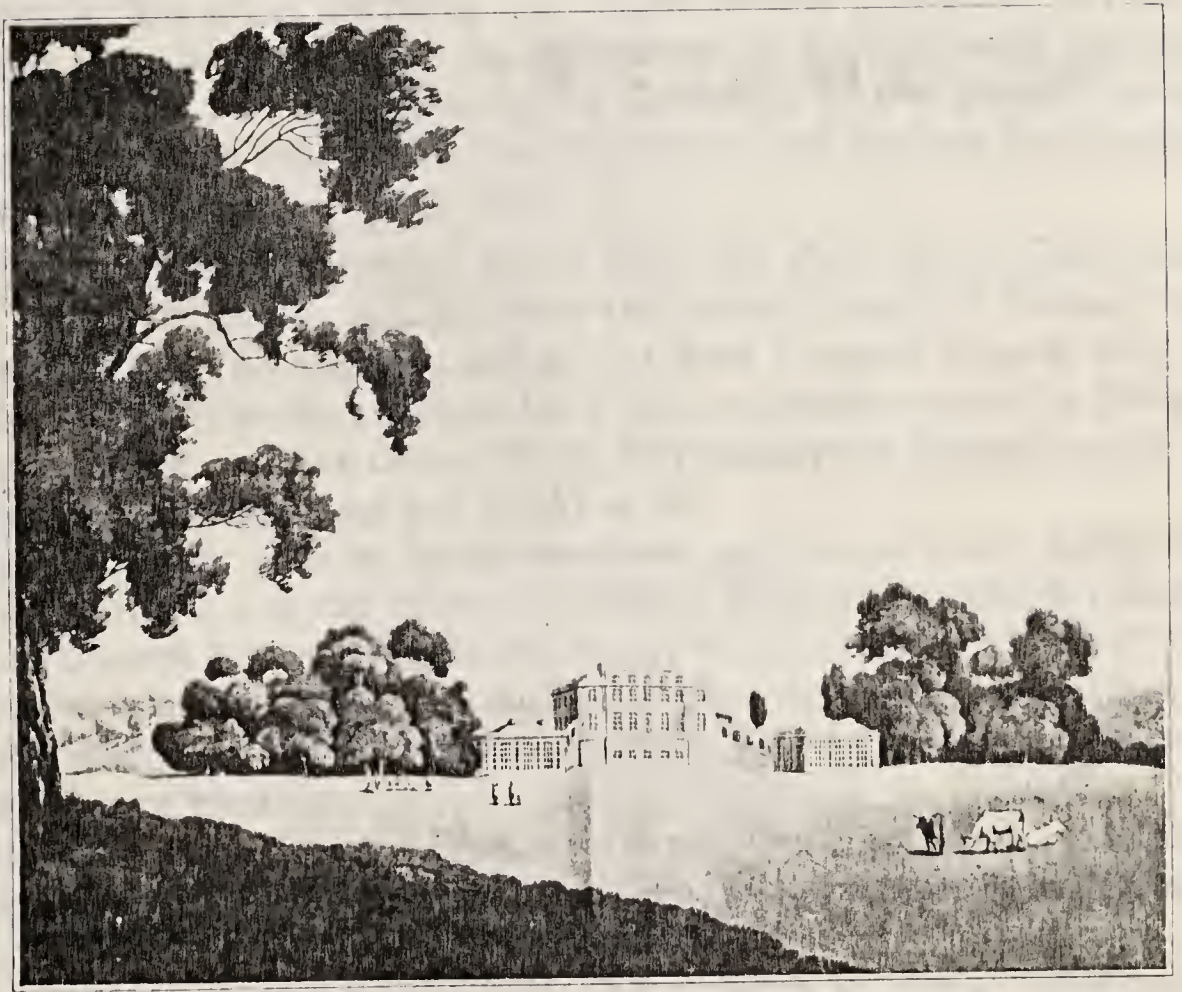
the House of Vermandois which will, no doubt, explain why a descendant of Charlemagne joined in the great adventure.

Herbert, who succeeded as Count of Vermandois in 1000, had three sons, the youngest being Otto, or Otho. He succeeded in the year 1045 owing to the deaths of his two brothers, and had issue Herbert (who succeeded him as Count of Vermandois) and Peter.

Peter's son, Herbert, joined William of Normandy, and soon after the Battle of Hastings he was granted lands in Sussex and other counties.

Although from a perusal of the foregoing account the descent of Finch from Pippin of Landen may readily be followed, the following pedigree may act as a key or guide.





EASTWELL PARK, KENT.

CHAPTER 3

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE FINCH FAMILY IN ENGLAND

FINCH alias HERBERT

THE early ancestry of the Finch or Herbert family in England has been grossly misrepresented by many genealogists, not excepting Dugdale. Even Philipott who, when Rouge Dragon, prepared the pedigree compiled to some extent from documents "then in the possession of the Earl of Winchilsea"—as it is set forth in a recent publication which obviously is incorrect. the said pedigree being compiled some years prior to the death of the First Countess in 1633 from which date the title "Earl" of Winchilsea begins in the eldest surviving son of the famous Countess (Sir Thomas Finch)—has made some errors which are corrected in the following pedigree. Edmund Lodge—Norroy King of Arms—in his *Genealogy of the British Peerage*, overlooked two generations between Herbert Fitz-Peter, and Herbert Fitz-Herbert, Chamberlain to King Stephen and King Henry II.

Certain historians have expressed doubt upon the claim of the Finch family (some perhaps even ridicule) to descent from the famous house of Herbert, descendants of the Counts of Vermandois, and earlier from Bernard, King of Italy and Charlemagne, but, apart from the pedigree here, the documents quoted by Philipott are not open to question; and the title of Baron Fitz-Herbert of Eastwell would not have been conferred had there been any doubt at all.

In Brabourne Church is to be found the Brass to Dionisia Finch, daughter of Vincent Finch als Herberd, and the inscription which, though now lost, is recorded in the Volume of Church Notes amongst the Harley M S S. (Harl : M.S. 3917 f. 77), written in the 17th century and also by Philipott, bore testimony long before the time of Philipott—Dionisia's inscription dates back to A.D. 1450—to the descent of Finch from the house of Herbert.

Emma, daughter of the Count of Blois, wife to the first of this family in England, was an ancestress of King Stephen. Her son, grandson, and great-grandson succeeded in turn to the position of Chamberlain.

Another grandson is one of the early Archbishops of York, subsequently canonised by the Pope.

In the reign of King Henry III, the father of the first of the Herberts to assume the surname of Finch in command of the King's Forces against the Welsh, was slain in battle against them.

It will be noticed that in many of the early generations, only one son of a Herbert is shown on the pedigree. It does not necessarily follow that there were not several children of such marriage, and as, within a period of two generations after the alliance of Herbert with the daughter and heiress of Finch, Lord of Finch in Kent,

we find others of the name bearing the same Arms in other Counties, it is to be regretted that records do not exist to enable them to be linked up with Herbert "dicta Finch."

The Writ of 8 Ed : II relating to Herbert Fitz-Herbert, dicta Finch, referred to in the pedigree, reads as follows :—

Rex Collectoribus suis Scutagii de exercitibus Scotiæ de annis regni D'ni Ed'ri quondam Regis Angliæ, patris n'ri 28uo et 31mo in Com. Kant, Salutem, Quia constat nobis per inspectionem rotulor' Cancellariæ ip'ius pris n'ri q'd dil'cus et fidelis noster Herebertus filius Hereberti dicti Finch defuncti, qui de nobis tenuit in Capite, fuit infra ætatem et in custodia ip'ius patris n'ri temporibus exercituum prædictorum ; Vobis mandamus quod demande quam eidem Hereberti fieri facitis pro Scutagio ad opus nostrum pro exercitibus prædictis in terris et tenementis suis quæ tenet de hæreditate prædicti Hereberti Supersederi, et ipsum inde pacem haberi permittatis : Prouiso q'd Scutagium de feodis militum quæ de hærede prædicto tunc tenebantr, prout iuste fuerit leueter ad opus nostrum. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium 16o die Aprilis Anno 8uo Edwardi Secundi.

His son Vincent, who lived at Netherfield, gave certain lands and houses about Winchilsea in frank marriage with his daughter Joan to John Pelham.

According to Philipott the following are the details of the Monumental Brasses then in the Church at Brabourne which now (with the exception of the female figure reproduced as an illustration) are lost :—

(1)



Arms.

Three catherine wheels within a bordure engrailed, impaling Finch.

Haec naecis in Cella, jacet his Isabella,
Quae nulli nocuit, sed Domino placuit,
Spousa fuit fata, venerabilis et peramata,



DIONISIA FINCH ALS HERBERT.
(Monumental Brass, Brabourne Church)

Clifton Jeruasii, militis egregii,
 Ante fuit dicta, Will'mi Scott relictā,
 Harbard vocata, vel Finch certe scies
 Dicitr. hic alias mille quater centum,
 Petit L cum septem monumentum
 Nouembris deca bis hiis numerando dabis. 1457.



Arms.

Semé of cinquefoils a lion rampant, impaling Finch.

(2)



Arms.

Finch, impaling six masles conjoined in fess, three and three. (This should read lozenges as they were the arms of Crall).

Subjacet hac petra Dionisia nunc caro tetra
 Quae fuerat nata ffinch aut Harbert vocitata

Vincent armigeri, cui paret Jesu mulieri
 Dormit non moritr, licet hic terre sepelitur,
 Si bene pensetur, qui credit non morietur,
 Anno milleno centeno quater semel quinquageno.
 Cape pleno, bis quater appone, per celi iunge corone
 Cui sit saluamen, Deus omnipotens praecor. Amen.

HERBERT FITZ-PETER, the first ancestor of the Finch family to enter this country, married Emma, daughter of Eudo, Count of Blois. Their son, Herbert Fitz-Herbert, who bore the Arms of Herbert,—Gules, three lions rampant Or,—was Chamberlain to King Henry I. He married Julia, daughter and heiress of Richard Corbett of Pontsbury. Three children of this marriage are recorded:-

- (1) Stephen Fitz-Herbert.
- (2) Herbert Fitz-Herbert, of whom presently.
- (3) William Fitz-Herbert, Archbishop of York, sometimes referred to as William of Thwayt, but most commonly as St. William of York. John of Hexham refers to his father as Herbert of Winchester, and says that he had been "Treasurer" to King Henry I. As Canon of York he accompanied Archbishop Thurston on his visitation of St. Mary's Abbey, and is a witness to his Charter of foundation of Fountains Abbey. St. William was appointed Chaplain to King Stephen. He was elected Archbishop in 1142.

It was claimed, however, that the election was tainted by simony and Royal Influence. For a year none would consecrate him so great was the opposition to his election. Pope Innocent II, however, in 1143, commanded his consecration, subject to his being cleared of the charges made against him. He was abundantly cleared, and on 26th September 1143 the Papal Legate, Henry, consecrated him in his own Cathedral at Winchester.

In the year 1147 he was deposed from his See, but in 1153 Pope Anastasius IV restored him to the Archbishopric and he received from him the Pallium.

Whilst celebrating High Mass the following year he was seized with a sudden illness—many suggested poison—and eight days afterwards (8th June 1154) he died. He was buried in York Minster by Hugh, Bishop of Durham. Honorius III admitted him to the Calender of Saints in 1227.

HERBERT FITZ-HERBERT, son of Herbert by his wife, Julia Corbet, became Chamberlain to King Stephen. He married Adela Corbet, one of the numerous mistresses of King Henry I. She was mother of Reginald de Dunstanville, and daughter and coheiress of the Domesday Baron, Robert Corbet, on whom the King had bestowed the Royal Manor of Alcester, Co. Worcester. Three sons of this marriage are recorded:-

- (1) Robert Fitz-Herbert, who also was Chamberlain to King Stephen.
- (2) Henry Fitz-Herbert, and
- (3) Herbert Fitz-Herbert.

This third son, Herbert, soon succeeded his brother as Chamberlain to King Stephen, and in the next reign served in the same capacity to King Henry II. He married twice, (1) to Lucia, daughter and heiress of Milo, Earl of Hereford, Lord High Chancellor of England, by whom he had a son, Peter Fitz-Herbert, the ancestor of the Earls of Pembroke, &c. By his second wife, Matilda, he had a son:—

MATTHEW FITZ-HERBERT, one of the Barons who witnessed King John's execution of Magna Charta. He was Lord of Warblington and served as Sheriff of Sussex & Surrey. He had two sons:—

(1) John Fitz-Matthew, and

(2) HERBERT FITZ-MATTHEW, who had grants of land in Warblington from King Henry III, and who commanded the King's Forces against the Welsh. He was slain in the battle of Margam in 1245. His son:—

HERBERT FITZ-HERBERT, is the first to be referred to as Finch. He is so styled in the writ of supersedeas already referred to in 8 Edward II. He married the daughter and heiress of one Finch, Lord of the Manor of Finch, Co. Kent. The son of this marriage,—VINCENT FINCH alias Herbert was of Netherfield, Co. Sussex in the reign of Edward II. He married Joan, daughter of Sampson Salerne of Iden, by whom he had three children, two sons and a daughter—

(1) Henry Finch als Herbert of whom later.

(2) John Finch als Herbert, who married Dame Lucy de Wigsell, widow of Robert Allard, by whom he had a son, John Finch, who married a daughter of Robert Arnold, by whom he had a son, John, who married a daughter of Gillingham.

(3) Joan, who married the warrior Sir John de Pelham who took John, King of France, prisoner at the battle of Poitiers 19th Sept 1358 and, in memory of that King surrendering his sword, had the buckle of a belt for a badge of that honour. He was Esquire of the body to John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster; was knighted 1368, and is buried in Canterbury Cathedral.

HENRY FINCH als HERBERT, married Parnell, daughter of Nicholas Allard of Winchilsea, and of this marriage two children are recorded—

(1) Vincent Finch als Herbert, of whom later.

(2) Nicholas Finch, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Simon Hawlo, and their son Thomas Finch had lands in Hertfordshire and is presumed to be the ancestor of the family of Finch of Redbourne, St. Albans, Watford, Willesden, Red Heath, Tipperary, &c.

VINCENT FINCH als HERBERT, was Lord of Netherfield in Sussex, and by his wife, Joan, daughter and coheiress of Robert Passenden of Passenden, he had a son:—

VINCENT FINCH als HERBERT, who succeeded to the estates in Sussex and was living at Netherfield in the reign of King Henry IV. He married Isabel, daughter and coheiress of Robert Cralle of Cralle in the Parish of Warblington, Co. Sussex, by his wife, Margaret, daughter and co-heiress

of Simon Poplesham. There were 6 children of this marriage, 2 sons and 4 daughters. The two sons were:-

- (1) William Finch, of whom later.
- (2) John Finch, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Seward of Linsted and died 19th May 1542. (Ancestor of many branches of the Finch family in Kent referred to in the Visitation Records).

The 4 daughters were:-

- (1) Joan, married Adam Iwood.
- (2) Elizabeth, married Thomas Ashburnham.
- (3) Isabel, who married (1) William Scott Esquire of Brabourne and (2) Sir Gervase Clifton, Mayor of Canterbury.
- (4) Dionisia, buried in Brabourne Church 1450. M.I.

WILLIAM FINCH als HERBERT, son of Vincent Finch, and the brother of Dionisia whose Brass is in Brabourne Church, was of Netherfield, Co. Sussex, and Lord of the Manor of Icklesham in the same county. On the North side of the Parish of Icklesham below the Church, a few years ago (1835), were to be seen the remains of Old Place, formerly the residence of the Finch family. It was pulled down about two centuries ago, and a new house on the road to Rye called New Place built with the materials. William Finch als Herbert was High Sheriff of Sussex & Surrey in the reign of King Henry VI. By his wife, Agnes, daughter of William Row of Dartford he had 2 sons, John Finch, who died s.p. 17th Edward IV, and,-

HENRY FINCH, of The Moat, near Canterbury, who married Alice, daughter and heiress of Phillip Belknap of The Moat, uncle of Sir Edward Belknap, and by her he had a son :—

SIR WILLIAM FINCH, who was a distinguished Military Commander during the reigns of Henry VIII, and Edward VI, and had a grant of the Manor of Burmarsh. He is the first of the family on record to receive the order of Knighthood. He was knighted during the reception of Prince Charles and Margaret of Savoy by King Henry VIII at Tournay. He died in the year 1553. His Will, dated 11th June 1552 was proved on 3rd May 1553 (P.C.C. 9 Tashe). He married twice, (1) Elizabeth, daughter of James Crowner and widow of Sir Richard Lovelace of Bethersden, and (2) Catherine, daughter of Sir John Gainsford, of Crowhurst, Surrey. He had 3 sons by his first wife,-

- (1) Laurence Finch, who married Mary, daughter and heiress of Christopher Kemp, who survived her husband and was made gentlewoman of the Privy Chamber to Queen Mary I, (see Biography). There were no children of the marriage. He died in his father's lifetime.
- (2) Sir Thomas Finch, of whom later.
- (3) Richard Finch who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Robert Walsingham, and ob, s.p.

By his second wife, Sir William Finch had 2 sons and 3 daughters. The

sons were:-

- (4) Erasmus Finch, Captain of Deal Castle, who married Mary, daughter of John Somer, and widow of Thomas Rolfe.
- (5) Vincent Finch, who married a daughter of ... Ferris, of co., Gloucester, and died s.p.

The daughters were:-

- (1) Eleanor, who married (1) Robert Morton, and (2) Thomas Wootton.
- (2) Mary, who married (1) Thomas Whitton of Lamberhurst, Co. Kent, (Marriage Licence dated 24th November 1572), and (2) Sir John Rogers, of Bryanstone, Kt.
- (3) Eliza, who married Thomas Thwaites.

SIR THOMAS FINCH, of Eastwell Place, Kent, eldest surviving son of Sir William Finch, was knighted on 2nd October 1553, the day after the Coronation of Queen Mary, at Westminster, in the presence of the Queen, and in her presence Chamber, by the Earl of Arundel, Lord Steward of the Household. This was in recognition of his services against Sir Thomas Wyatt.

In the sixth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth he was made knight marshall of the Forces in Newhaven then besieged by the French, but perished by shipwreck with a numerous suite on his voyage to that place.

He married Catherine, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Moyle of Eastwell, Chancellor of the Court of Augmentations, and after his death she married again to Nicholas St. Leger. By the said Catherine Moyle, Sir Thomas had four children, 3 sons and a daughter.

The sons were:—

- (1) SIR MOYLE FINCH—ancestor of the Earls of Winchilsea, Nottingham and Aylesford. (SEE WINCHILSEA PEDIGREE).
- (2) Sir Henry Finch, Serjeant-at-Law, knighted at Whitehall 20th June 1616 who, by his wife Ursula, daughter of John Thwaites, had three sons—
 - (a) Sir John Finch, Lord Finch of Fordwich (see Biography), and
 - (b) Sir Nathaniel Finch, Serjeant-at-Law, of Ash, Kent, knighted at Whitehall on 12th May 1640. He died s.p. His widow, Dame Elizabeth, proved his Will on 25th June 1649 (P.C.C. 92 Fairfax).
 - (c) Edward Finch (see Biography).
- (3) Thomas Finch, who died in the expedition to Portugal in 1589.

The daughter was:-

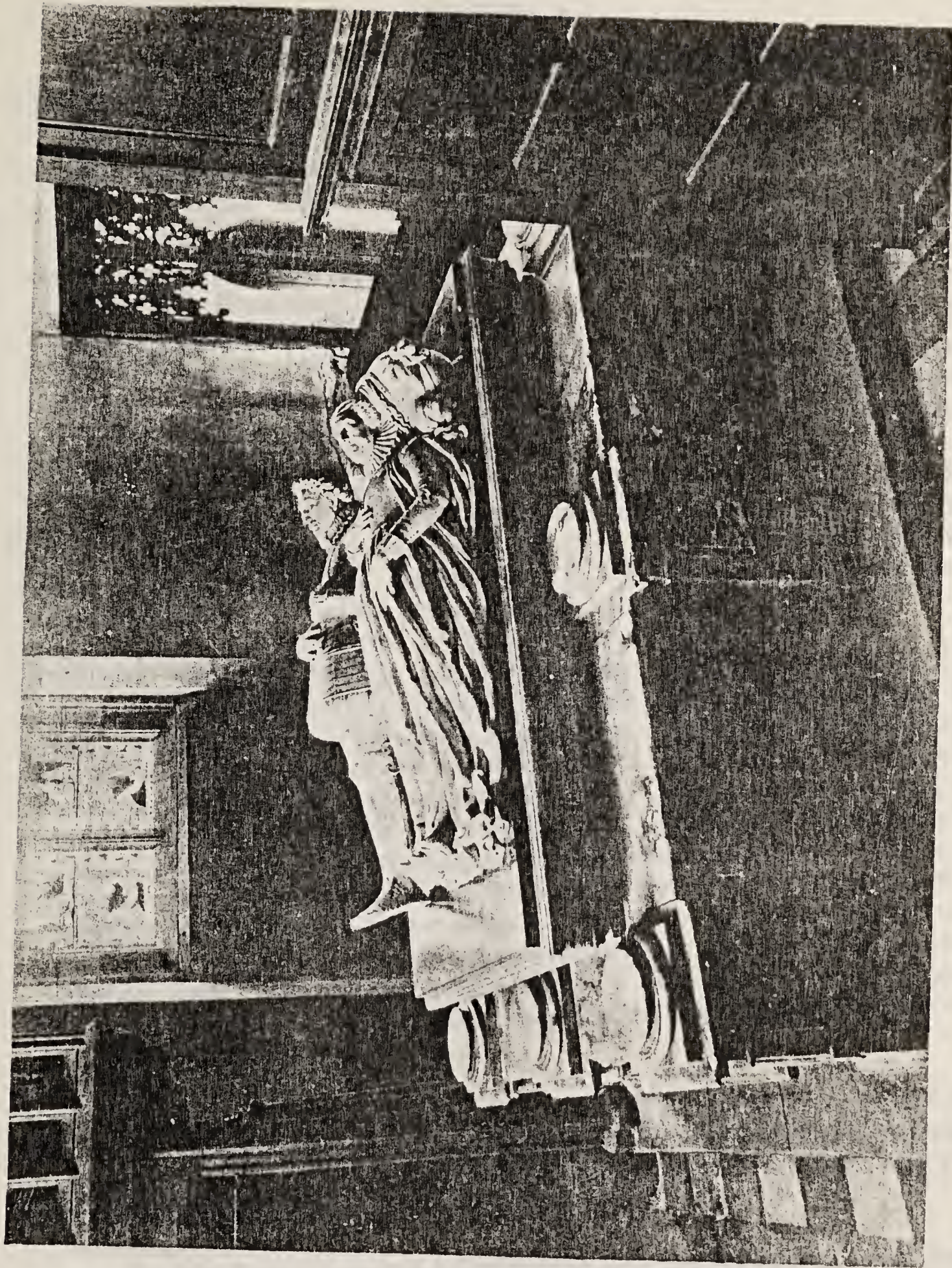
Jane, who married Gregory Wyatt of Boxley, at Eastwell, 3rd October 1582. (In the Wyatt pedigree he is called George).

Note

The reproduction of the brass to Dionisia Finch als Herbert in Brabourne Church is taken from a rubbing to be found amongst the Additional M.S.S. at the British Museum. The Latin inscription is now lost. It is referred to in a volume of church notes in Harley M.S. 3917 fo : 77 and this gives the wording as set out in the foregoing pages. It also states "In Brabran nere Ashford a monument of Sir Gervas Clifton Knight, in the South Ile wth these arms whose daughter was married to William Scott he married a Finch" Dionisia was the sister of Isabel Finch als Herbert daughter of Vincent Finch als Herbert of Netherfield, in Sussex and widow of William Scott of Brabourne.

Note

Parsons writing in 1794 of the monument in Eastwell church to Sir Moyle Finch and his wife Elizabeth, Countess of Winchilsea says "Inclosed in a very high railing of wood is a very large tomb on which lie the figures of Sir Moyle Finch and Elizabeth his wife in white marble who died about 1614. They had twelve children whose names are engraved round the tomb. Over all was once a dome supported by eight pillars of black marble but about fifty years ago the late Earl of Winchilsea had this taken down, from an apprehension of its falling and defacing the marble figures, which are very clear and perfect."



MONUMENT TO SIR MOYLE FINCH AND HIS WIFE ELIZABETH
COUNTESS OF WINCHILSEA.

CHAPTER 4.

RECORDS FROM THE CLOSE AND OTHER ROLLS.

THE Tower. 15th. January 1337.

To the Mayor and Bailiffs of Southampton. Order to deliver to Stephen de Padyham and Henry Finch of Winchelsea a certain ship called "Cogges" with its tackle, which these men and other men of the Cinque Ports lately took upon the sea and which lie anchored in the Port of Southampton, as the King has granted that ship to these men, of his gift. Langley. 30th November 1339.

An Order to William de Clynton, Earl of Huntingdon, Constable of Dover Castle and Warden of the Cinque Ports, or to him who supplies his place in the Port of Wynchelse. Because the King is informed that John Fynch of Wynchelse detains a white cable of the King received by James Kyttey and John le Man, Masters of a ship called "la Michel", lately ordained to set out to sea in the King's service, from William, son of John Loveryk of Sandwich, at Andewerp, to the King's damage, although the ship has left the King's service, and John Fynch has required the restitution of the cable, the King orders the Constable to call before him John Fynch, to hear the reasons of William, and further to do the complement of justice upon the restitution of the cable or the price thereof to William for the King's use. Westminster. 10th April 1342.

To William de Clynton, Earl of Huntingdon, Constable of Dover Castle, and Warden of the Cinque Ports. Order to attach Stephen de Padyham, Henry Fynch, John Finch and others, to have them before the King and his council at Westminster on Monday the morrow of the month of Easter next to answer for their trespass and contempt and further to do and receive what shall there be ordained, and to arrest ship called "La Blythe", "La George", "La Laurence", "La Katerine", "La James", and "La Luce" of Wynchelse, and keep them safely until further order, as Stephen and the others received divers sums as earnest money from the King for bringing the said ships to Portsmouth on a certain day now long past for the passage of Walter de Mauny, and other lieges about to set out to Brittany and the ships have not come to the said port where Walter and the others have been staying for no small time awaiting their arrival, whereby the said passage has been delayed as Walter has certified by his letters. Windsor. 30th May 1346.

Order for the King's protection to be allowed to certain persons who, though bound to appear to answer a charge of trespass on Henry Fynch of Wynchelse committed on him by them, as they are all now about to set forth on the King's service and these services cannot now be dispensed with. Porchester. 6th June 1346.

To John Fynch. Order to be before the King and his council at Porchester on Wednesday after Trinity next, to answer some things which will be set forth to him on the King's behalf.

Windsor. 5th July 1346.

To Henry Fynch and Stephen de Padiham of Wynchelse. Order to receive a ship called "La George" from Robert Salmon the master and Thomas de Snotesham the clerk thereof, by indenture, and keep it safely at their peril, as the King lately charged Robert and Thomas at Kan in Normandy to take that ship to Wynchelse and deliver it to Henry and Stephen for its safe custody, and although the ship began to be broken by misfortune in the port of that town when it might have been saved if Henry and Stephen had shown diligence, yet they may not have cared to do anything for the safety of that ship or the victuals therein, but have permitted it to be broken and almost sunk as the King has learned, in contempt of his orders.

Windsor. 13th August 1346.

A writ of aid addressed to the Mayor and Bailiffs of Wynchelse in favour of Stephen de Padyham and Henry Fynch relating to the timber and the tackle of "La George" in accordance with the order of the council to them.

Windsor. 14th August 1346.

An order to Henry Fynch and others to keep safely what is delivered to them of a ship called "La George" with the tackle thereof as the King lately ordered Thomas Spigurnel supplying the place of the Constable of Dover Castle and of the Warden of the Cinque Ports to take inquisition by the oath of lawful men of Wynchelse, by whom that ship was brought to a place near Wynchelse where it first began to break, and by whose default it was broken, and to cause what could be saved to be taken to land and to be delivered to Henry Fynch and the others by indenture in the presence of the Mayor and community of the said town, to be kept until further order.

Windsor. 14th August 1346.

An order to Thomas Spigurnel to go to Wynchelse and have a survey made of the ship "La George" and hold an inquisition as to how the ship came to be broken, and further to hand all tackle saved to Henry Fynch and the others to preserve for the King.

The Tower. 3rd October 1346.

An order is addressed to the Mayor and Bailiffs of Sandwich instructing them to release a ship called "La Cogge Seinte Piere" which had been arrested loaded with a cargo of 90 quarters of wheat contrary to the King's orders, that wheat must not be permitted to be taken out of the Country, and to let the merchants of Gascony, who had loaded the ship with the wheat in the Port of Sandwich, cross to Bordeaux in the ship with the wheat, as John Fynch, John de Studeye, John Beaufiour, and Careland Sedas of London have "mainperned" for the said merchants that they will take and unload the wheat at Bordeaux to be used for the maintenance of the King's troops, bringing back to Chancery testimonials of the Seneschal of Gascony or the Constable of Bordeaux that this has been duly carried out.

A pilgrimage to Rome. An order is addressed to the Constable of Dover Castle to permit Roger Fynch with a groom and eight horses to cross from Dover on a pilgrimage to the city of Rome, with his expenses in gold.

(N.B.) It is possible that this is the same Roger Fynch who, on 18th July 1352, witnessed an enrolment of release by Sir John de Bures, and in this event, shows his safe return.

There was, however, a Roger Fynch, a citizen and vintner of London who, on 20th September 1351, obtained an order for the delivery of certain wine of the merchants of the House of Almain in the City of London.

20th October 1354.

Enrolment of sale by Roger Fynche, citizen and vintner of London, Sir Robert de Conyham, brother of the grantor, and Sir Robert de Studeye, chaplain of all his corn, animals, vessels, utensils, and other movable goods and chattels in the towns of Wandlesworth and Clopham, Co., Surrey, for money paid down.

Westminster. 6th December 1354.

Enrolment of grant by Roger Fynch, citizen and vintner of London to Sir Robert de Conyham, James Norman, and Walter Sprynget, of all his land in the town of Wandlesworth, Co., Surrey, messuages, arable pasture, ponds, mills, rents, suits, services of freeman and neifs and all appurtenances.

8th June 1363.

Vincent Finch referred to in an order to the treasurer and the Barons of the exchequer relating to Julianne who was wife to William de Clynton, late Earl of Huntingdon, as the bailiff of the town of Winchilsea.

7th July 1363.

Indenture of defeasance of the recognisance of Henry le Strete, citizen and vintner of London, upon condition that William de Stodeye, his heirs and assigns may peaceably hold the tenement which the said William has of the gift and feoffment of Thomas, son of John Fynche sometime citizen and vintner of London situate in the parish of St. Martin of the Vintry, London.

Henry VII's funeral.

Squire of the body William Fynche.

Estimate for Henry VII's tomb.

Mr. Fynche and Robert Thosney, merchants, say that 100ft. of black towche stone is sufficient for the legges and the bace of the said tombe.

Pardon Roll L Henry VIII.

No reason for the pardon is specified.

30th June—Henry Fynche, gent, of Sandehurst, Plukley, and Melton next Sittingbourne, Kent, son of Vincent Finch.

25th June—Vincent Fynche and Thomas Rote, gents, tenants of the Manors of Crowhurst, Burghwasse, and Bevelham, Sussex.

1512. Commission of Array—Sussex—Vincent Fynche.

4 May. 5 Hen: VIII (1513)—Certificate by Sir John Peeche that William Fynche is admitted one of the King's spears and is serving in Peeche's retinue ; with request that he may have all necessary wants without fine, according to the Statute.

1509-1514. Vincent Fynche on the Commissions of the Peace for Co., Sussex. Field of the Cloth of Gold.

March 1520. A memorial of things necessary for the transporting of the King for the interview between him, the French King, their Queens, Queen Mary Dowager of France, and the mother of the French King.

The King with the Queen, and the Queen Dowager of France, shall be at Guisnes Castle on the last of May, and within four days after shall meet the French King within the County of Guisnes as determined by the treaty. The Commissioners for appointing the time and place of meeting to be the Lord Chamberlain, Earl of Worcester, Sir Nicholas Vaux, Sir William Sandes, and Sir Edward Belknap. Vaux, Sandes, and Belknap to be commissioners to visit Guisnes Castle and the neighbourhood, and prepare lodgings according to the instructions to be issued to them on their departure. The Chamberlain, Vaux, Sandes, and Belknap are to meet the French Commissioners and appoint a place for the jousts halfway between Guisnes and Arde, and to provide for its fortification and for the construction of huts, galleries, &c,

The Commissioners to appoint lodgings at Guisnes to be Sir William Sandes, Sir Nicholas Vaux, and Sir Edward Belknap.

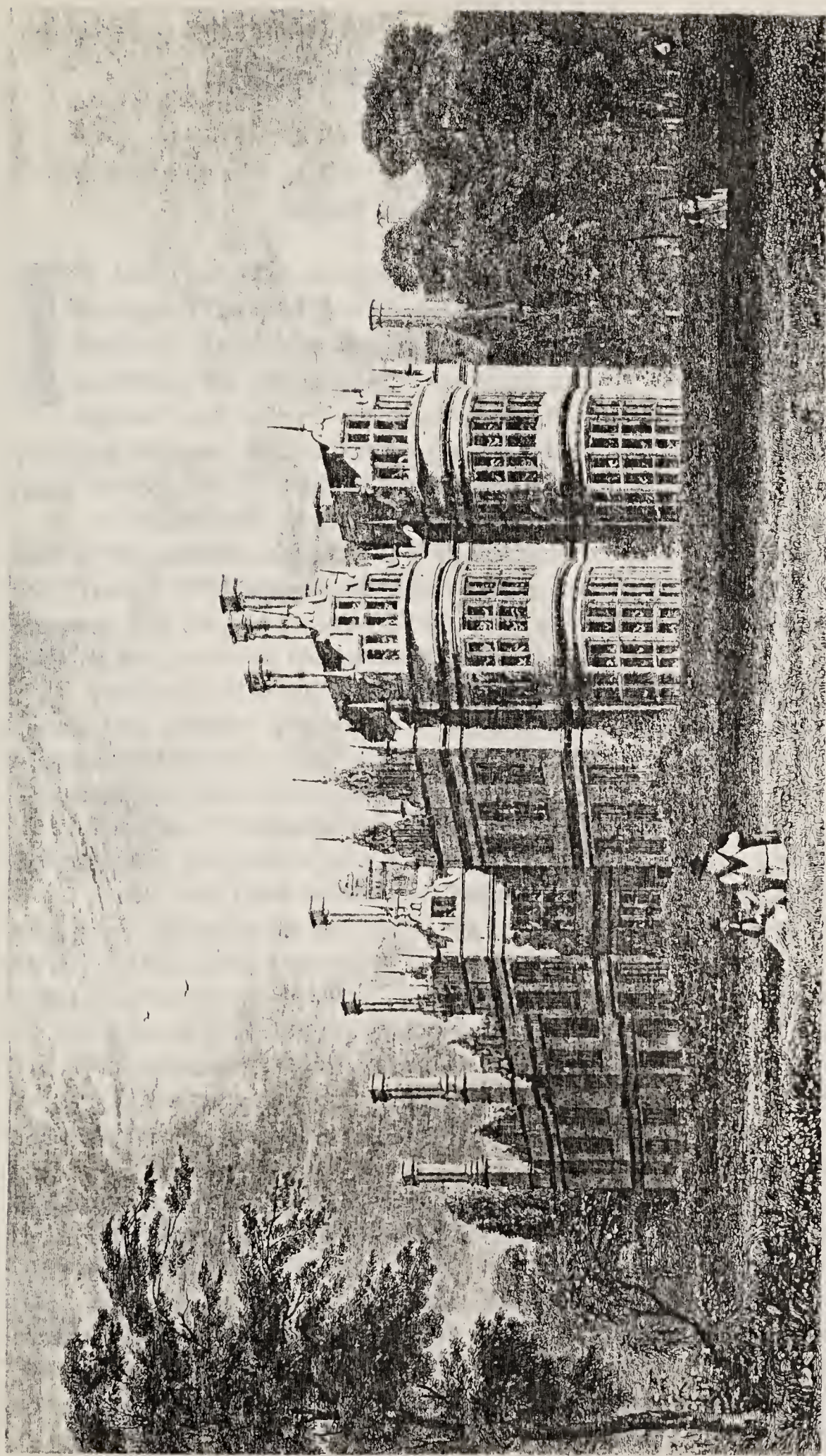
A solemn banquet will be held at Guisnes. The charge of the arrangement and furnishings is committed to Vaux, Sandes, Belknap, and Richard Gibson.

Amongst those to attend on the Queen is Lady Finch.

Names of noblemen and others to attend on the King (for Sussex) Sir Fynche.
10th July 1520.—Noblemen and others appointed to attend on the King at Gravelem—Sir - - Fynch (at the meeting of King Henry VIII and Charles V).
Commission to collect the Subsidy.

30-8-1523 - Sussex - Sir William Fynche and others.

Kent - Henry Finch and others.



KIRBY HALL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

CHAPTER 5

HISTORICAL MANSIONS AND MANORS

(PART I)

KIRBY HALL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

IN the year 1826 this magnificent mansion was the seat of The Rt. Hon. Sir George William Finch-Hatton, 9th Earl of Winchilsea and 5th Earl of Nottingham. As will be noticed by referring to the Winchilsea and Nottingham pedigree, his grandfather, a younger son of Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham and 6th of Winchilsea by his wife Anne, daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton, had assumed the additional surname of Hatton on succeeding to these estates, and Kirby Hall became the seat of the family.

An illustration of this beautiful mansion is taken from an engraving by the 9th Earl of Winchilsea early in the 19th century to Baker for inclusion in his history of the County. Within some few years of the making of this engraving the mansion was in ruins, and no good purpose would be served by producing an illustration of the ruins as they exist at the present time.

Neale, in his work on the seats of the Nobility and Gentry, 2nd series, volume 3, has two smaller engravings produced about the same time, and the following details of the mansion house and its history have been extracted from Neale's article accompanying his illustrations.

The Hall is situated in the parish of Gretton, not far from the Rutlandshire borders, and part of the park is in the neighbouring parish of Bulwick.

Kirby Hall (said Neale) is a magnificent pile of building, deriving interest as well from the splendid peculiarity of its structure, as from its having been founded by Sir Christopher Hatton, K.G., a conspicuous character in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and also at a subsequent period, from having additions in a superb character by the hand of Inigo Jones the leading architect in the reign of King Charles I.

The mansion appears to have been originally erected in the year 1572. The date of 1590 also appears on the stables, so that it may be supposed to have occupied the attention of its founder until near the time of his death.

The building is so large as to contain two Courts or Quadrangles, each displaying much grandeur in the architecture of its front.

The North front is divided into three principal compartments, the centre, the most conspicuous one, is rusticated, and contains an archway with niches on the sides, over which is a semi-circular headed window, surmounted by the Arms of Hatton (Azure three garbs Or) and opening upon a gallery supported by consoles ; above these are three windows with plain architrave balustrades, and a cupola. The line of building extending on each side of the centre division, contains four windows in each storey with a bold cornice and balustrades ; the end divisions of the front

terminate with circular windows finished with scrolls, pediments and balls. The other three fronts of the first court retain their primaeval forms, partly covered with ivy.

The centre of the North front of the second, or Inner Court, is divided into three storeys, the two lowest by Inigo Jones in his best manner, and the third storey in the original style of the whole mansion.

On each side of the arched entrances are double fluted Ionic pilasters with an enriched frieze and entablature, an arched window over it opens upon a gallery supported by consoles, and has pilasters with a semi-circular pediment broken in the centre, and inclosing a bracket for a bust with the date 1633. The third storey contains the date "Je seray 1572 loyal." On the eastern side of the Court is situated the Great Hall which is large and curious, being 46 feet in length by 22 and a half feet in width, the height to the top of the side walls is 28 feet ; at the east end is a music gallery, and the north side is lighted by three very large windows ; the ancient oak roof has been painted.

The several chambers range round the Quadrangle, which is 141 feet by 101, including the Porch leading to the Hall. At the other end is an Arcade, with seven openings under the Chapel, 75 feet by 14 feet. The outer Court is 158 feet by 130 feet.

A grand gallery in one of the wings is 162 feet in length and 18 feet in width ; the remaining part of the wing occupies 116 feet.

The mansion is wholly constructed of stone.

Sir Christopher Hatton, K.G., was the founder of Kirby Hall. He was first one of the Gentlemen Pensioners to Queen Elizabeth, then Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, and next Captain of the Guard. The Queen, it is said, took notice of him for the comeliness of his person, and his graceful dancing at a masque at Court, but afterwards employed him for his great abilities.

He was advanced to be Her Majesty's Vice-Chamberlain, one of the Privy Council, and at length on 29th April 1587, became Lord Chancellor. He was installed a Knight of the Garter on 23rd May 1588.

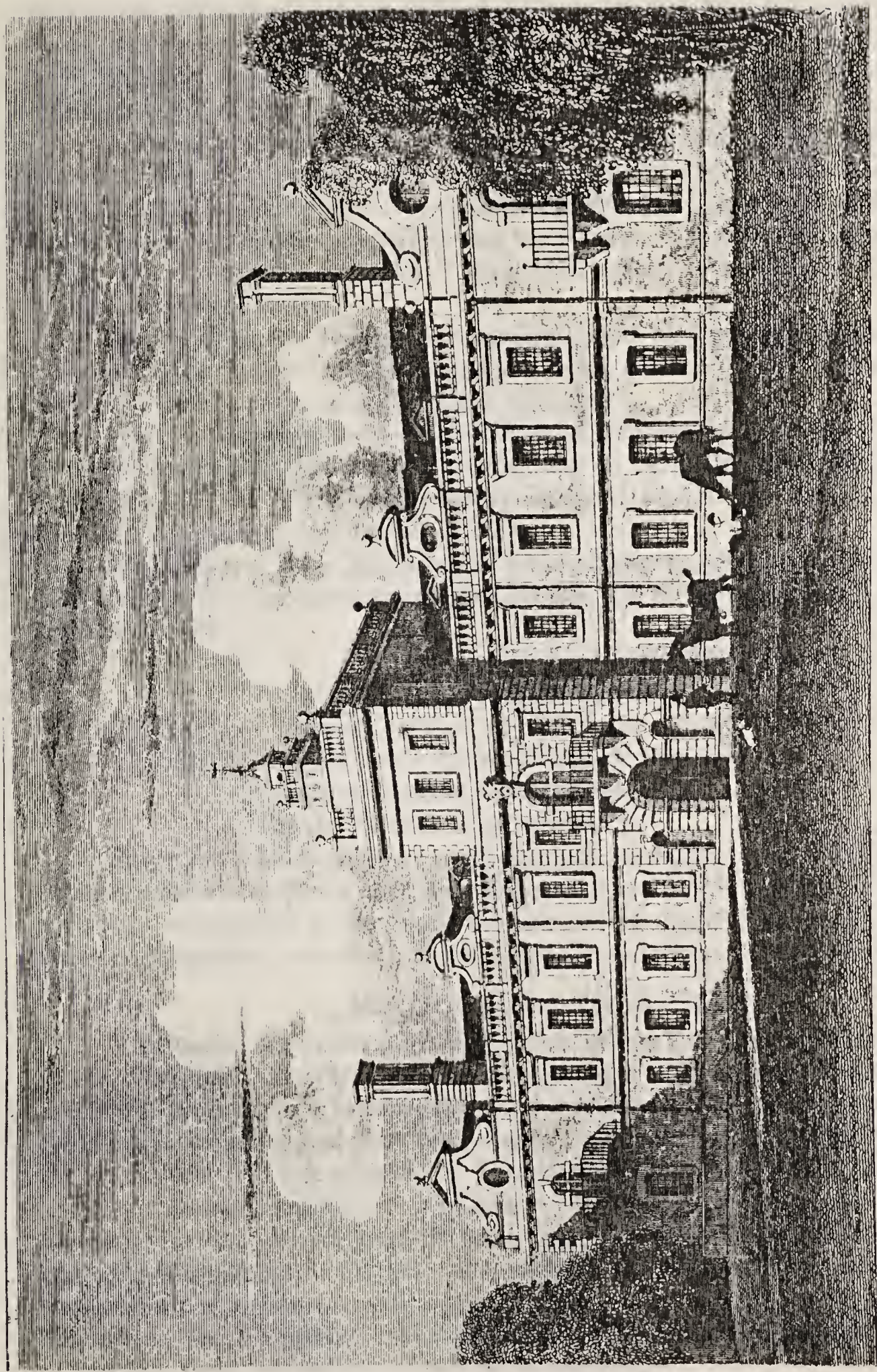
Of him, it is said, "His station was great, but his humility was greater, "giving an easy access to all addresses. He was so just that his sentence was a law to the subject, and so wise, that his opinion was an oracle to the Queen."

He died a bachelor on 28th September 1591 and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.

NOTTINGHAM HOUSE, KENSINGTON.

(KENSINGTON PALACE)

Faulkner, in his History of Kensington, says that the Royal Palace which takes its name from the adjoining town, although it is situate in the Parish of St. Margarets, Westminster, was purchased by King William III soon after his accession, from Daniel, 2nd Earl of Nottingham.



KIRBY HALL. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The premises at that period were not very extensive and had been in possession of the Finch family about half a century. It is said by Collins that Sir Heneage Finch, the Recorder of London, occupied a house and died here in 1631.

The first mention of the family in the Parish books occurs in 1651 when the marriage of a daughter of Sir Heneage is recorded.

In the account of the sale of Hyde Park by Cromwell in 1653 and 1654, several parcels of the Park are there described as bounded by Mr. Finch's house and lands.

In 1661 Sir Heneage Finch, son of the Recorder, and at that time Solicitor-General, purchased the property from his younger brother, Sir John Finch, M.D., and in the conveyance Sir John "covenants against incumbrances &c. committed "by my brother Francis."

Shortly after the above-mentioned purchase Sir Heneage obtained a grant of a part of Hyde Park to make an addition to his grounds. This portion was ten feet broad and one hundred and fifty yards in length.

After Sir Heneage was created Earl of Nottingham the house obtained the name of Nottingham House, and it continued to be his principle place of residence during his life, and it was subsequently occupied by his son, Daniel, the 2nd Earl until the sale to King William III in 1691.

King William went immediately into occupation after the purchase, but very soon afterwards it was partly destroyed by fire. The following record is in the London Gazette for 1691 :—

Whitehall, Novr 11th.

" Last night a fire happened in their
" Majestie's Palace at Kensington which
" burnt down the stone gallery, but was
" happily stopped before it reached
" their Majestie's apartments."

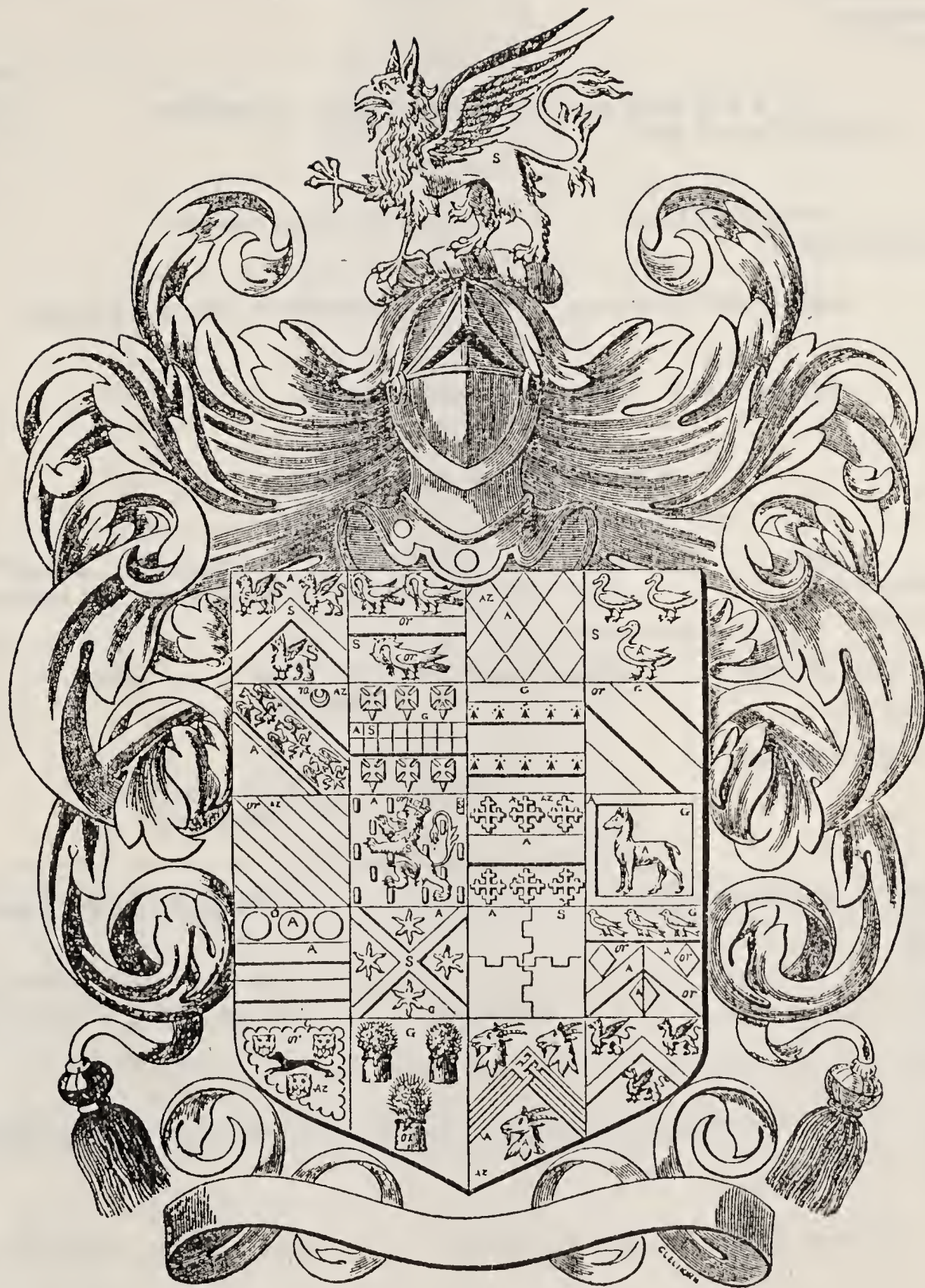
There have been so many additions and alterations since Nottingham House became a Royal residence that it is difficult to say which sections of the residence are those dating back to the Finch period, and no illustration can be traced, under these circumstances, which would illustrate the property as it appeared prior to 1691.

BRIGHTLINGSEA HALL, ESSEX

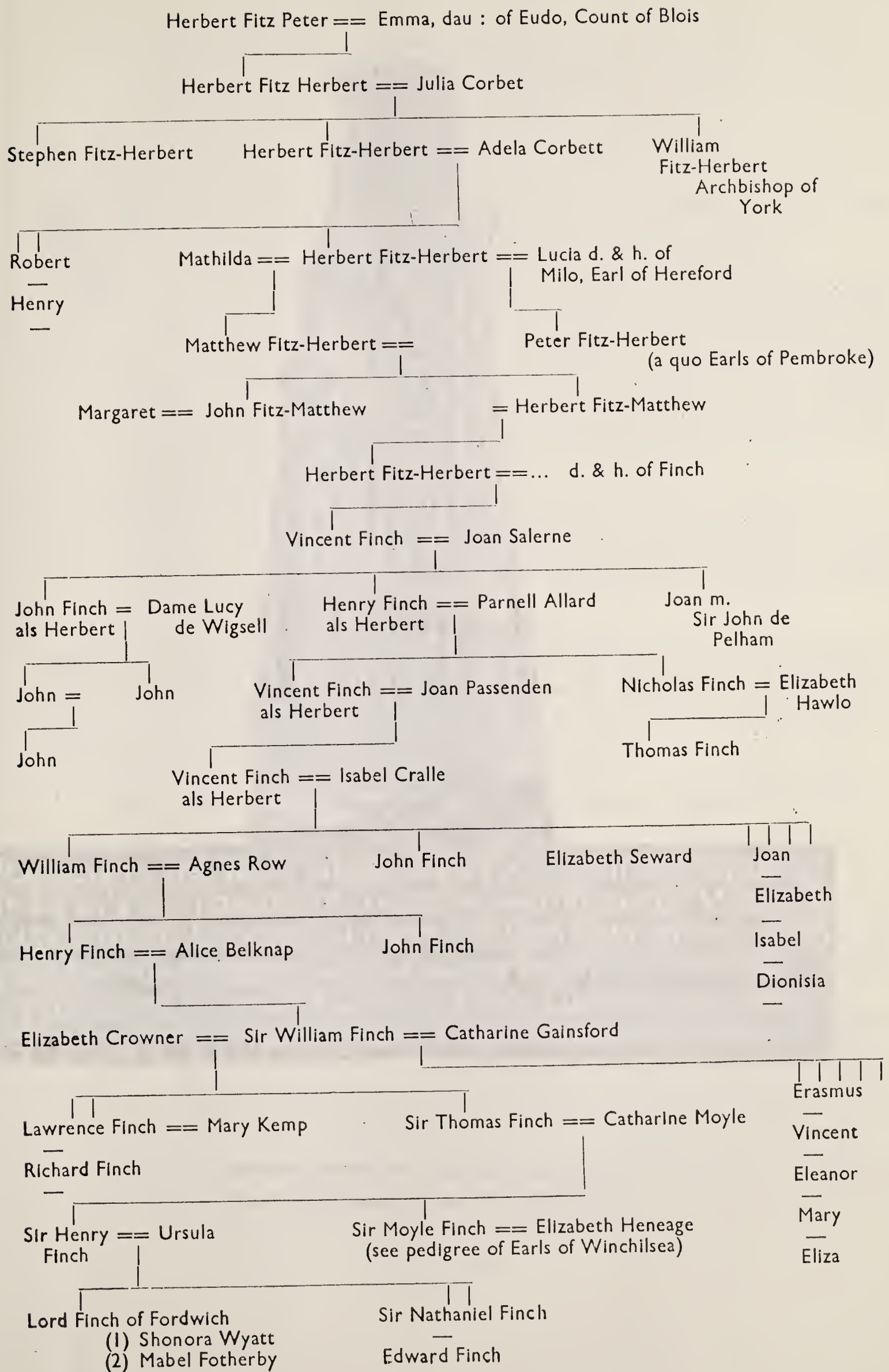
The Manor was granted by King Henry VIII to Thomas, Lord Cromwell, Keeper of the Privy Seal. It reverted to the Crown upon his attainder, and continued in it until 1576, when Queen Elizabeth granted the Manor of Brightlingsea and the Manor Place called Brightlingsea Hall, and all the desmesnes belonging to this Manor, and the in-marshes and out-marshes to Thomas Heneage, Esquire, afterwards knighted, and one of Queen Elizabeth's Privy Council. He died 17th October 1595, and Elizabeth, his daughter and heiress then 38 years old was the wife of Moyle Finch Esquire, created a Baronet 22nd May 1611. She, herself, was created 8th July 1623 Viscountess Maidstone, and advanced to the title of Countess of Winchilsea 12th July 1628. Sir Moyle died 18th December, 1614. He, or his wife sold the estate to Richard Wilcox of London, Gent, whose father was of Shropshire.

THE MANOR OF EPPING

This Manor also came into possession of Sir Moyle Finch on his marriage with Elizabeth Heneage, together with Wintry Park, Common or Wood, the Rectory with all tithes thereto appertaining, and the advowson of the Vicarage ; also a weekly market and two fairs yearly in Epping ; also various other messuages in this and other Parishes adjoining. Sir Thomas Finch, who succeeded his brother as Earl of Winchilsea, sold the Manor of Epping to William, Lord Grey, for £21,000, it being then of the yearly value of £12,000.



FINCH als HERBERT





HERE LYETH THE BODY OF BENNET FINCH WIFE OF THOMAS
FINCH OF PRESTON GENT. DAUGHTER AND HEIRE OF WILLEIAM
MAYCOTT OF FEVERSHAM GENT. SHE HAD ISSVE BY HER SAYD
HUSBAND ONE SONNE WHO DYED YOUNG AND HAVING
LYED W. HIM HAPPILY 46 YEARES DEPTED THIS LIFE AGED
68 YEARES SHE DYED Y 13 DAYE OF FEBRVARY AN DNI 1612

BENNET, WIFE OF THOMAS FINCH.
(Monumental Brass, Preston nr. Faversham)

CHAPTER 6
VISITATION RECORDS
(WITH ADDITIONS)

THE VISITATIONS OF KENT

(1) HERBERT alias FINCH.

VINCENT Herbert alias Finch of Netherfield, Co. Sussex, married Isabel, sister and co-heiress of Richard Crall. They had two sons :—
1. William Finch alias Herbert (see pedigree in Chapter 3).
2. John Finch, Lord of Swards (jure uxoris) who died 19th May 1442, and was buried at Sevington. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Richard Seward of Linsted. Their son, William Finch of Swards and Linsted married Ellen, daughter and heiress of William Hollingbrooke of Romney, Co. Kent. Their son John Finch of Swards and Linsted married Agnes, one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Thomas Ellis, of Otham, Co., Kent.

The said John and Agnes had two sons :—

1. Herbert Finch, from whom descend the branches at Linsted, Norton, Faversham, Wye and several others. He had a son, William, whose daughter Catherine, married Sir Drue Drury, a gentleman usher of the Privy Chamber of Queen Elizabeth.
2. Thomas Finch of Kingsdown, of whom presently.

THOMAS FINCH OF KINGSDOWN (2nd son of John and Agnes Finch of Linsted) purchased the Manor of Kingsdown from Sir Thomas Cheney. He died 10th October 1555, and was buried at Chichester. He married Joyce, daughter of John Finch of Grovehurst, Kent, by whom he had two sons and two daughters :—

Sons—(1) Ralph Finch, of whom later.

- (2) John Finch, who married a daughter of..... Block, of Faversham, and ob s.p.

Daughters—

- (1) Joan.
- (2) Katherine.

Ralph Finch (elder son of Thomas Finch of Kingsdown) died 9th March 1590-1, and was buried in Kingsdown Church, M.I. His will dated 9th March 1590-1 was proved on 7th June 1591 (P.C.C. 44 Salnberbe). He married Bridget, daughter of Richard Potter Esquire by whom he had five sons and four daughters.

Sons—(1) Thomas Finch of Kingsdown, Esquire, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Stephen Worley of Tonge, by whom he had three sons—(1) Thomas Finch, who died s.p., (2) Herbert Finch, who had a daughter Judith, who married John Umphrey of Darenth, Esquire (3) James Finch; and one daughter Elizabeth, who married Christopher Allen of Borden.

- (2) Richard Finch, who married Mary, daughter of Thomas Tonge, by whom he had three sons, John, William and Anthony, and three daughters, Frances, Bridget and Elizabeth.

(3) Michael Finch, of Stacefield, who married firstly, Mary Chute, by whom he had two sons, William and Richard, and two daughters, Bridget and Joan. He married secondly, Maximinia Ellioni, but there are no children recorded of this marriage.

(4) William Finch.

(5) Ralph Finch.

Daughters—

(1) Joyce. (2) Bridget. (3) Elizabeth, married.....Gresham.
(4) Margaret, who married John Cheney of Higham.

(2) FINCH OF SANDWICH AND COLDRED.

Arms :—Argent, a chevron engrailed between 3 griffins passant sable.

John Finch of Sandwich, married a daughter of.....Covert, of Co. Sussex.
There were two sons of this marriage.

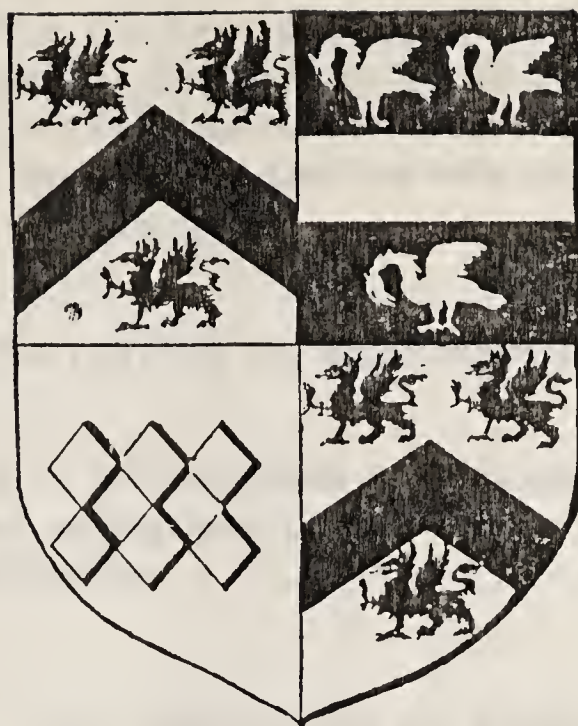
(1) Anthony Finch, of Petworth Co. Sussex, who died in 1621. His will dated 13th May 1621 was proved on 5th October 1621 (P.C.C. 85 Dale). By his wife Mary he had six sons and five daughters. The sons were, George, Lawrence, William, Anthony, Henry, and Nathaniel, and the daughters, Awdrey, Alice, Elizabeth, Frances and Bridget. In his will he left "the great picture in the parlour neare upon my coate of arms to son Anthony if he return alive from parts beyond the seas."

(2) William Finch, of Coldred, who died 25th December 1615 and was buried in Coldred Church, M.I. He married Benet, daughter and heiress of Christopher Honeywood, of Hythe, gent, by whom he had four sons : (1) Robert Finch of Coldred, who married Margaret, daughter of Robert Bradnex (Marriage Licence dated 8th May 1616) by whom he had a son, Robert. (2) William Finch. (3) Christopher Finch and (4) Thomas Finch, and three daughters, Margaret, who married Charles Hales of St. Mary Magdalene, Canterbury, Esquire (Marriage Licence dated 2nd February 1615); Benet, who married John Hales, and Mary.

(3) FINCH OF ROLVENDEN AND TENTERDEN.

Arms :—Finch, quartering Passenden and Crall.

Richard Finch of Rolvenden, Co., Kent, had a son William Finch of Tenterden, who was Mayor of Tenterden in 1615. He married Alice, daughter of Reginald Blechenden, of Mersham and Hoathfield, Esquire, (Marriage Licence dated 17th May 1615). Their son, Edward Finch of Tenterden, was a Justice of the Peace 1663. He married twice, firstly, Elizabeth, daughter of Simon Smith of Chart, next Sutton in Kent, Esquire, by whom he had a daughter Elizabeth. He married secondly, Thomasine, eldest daughter of Richard Downton, of Isleworth, Co. Middlesex, Esquire, by whom he had three sons. Edward Finch, his son and heir, who was 10 years old in 1663 ; Richard and William.



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Herbert Finch, of Sandhurst Co. Kent, Esquire, in his Will dated 7th March 1552-3, and proved on 12th May 1553 (P.C.C. 10 Tashe) desired to be buried in Sandhurst Church, near where his grandfather was buried. By his wife, Ann, who survived him, he had five sons, viz :—Bernardino, John, Thomas, Anthony, and William, and a daughter Katherine.



(4) FINCH OF WYE.

Henry Finch had a son William Finch, of Wye, who married Godley, daughter of.....Beck, of Hinxell (Hinxhill) Co. Kent (Marriage Licence dated 23rd September 1599). They had a son, George Finch, of Wye, gentleman, living in 1663, who married twice, firstly, Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Twisden, of Wye, Esquire, by whom he had a son, John Finch, and a daughter Ann, who married Peter Hayman (Hammond) of Selling. He married, secondly, Anne, daughter of John Upton, of Faversham, by whom he had three sons, viz :—George, James, and William, and two daughters, Margaret and Katherine.

Edward Finch, of Wye, Co. Kent, gentleman, W.D. 14th March, 1528-9, W.P. 8th May 1529 (P.C.C. 7 Jenkyn) desired to be buried in Wye Church. He made his wife, Jane, sole executrix, and held lands in both Kent and Sussex. He made provision for my "child which by the Grace of God my wife now goeth with." The Will was witnessed by Roger Twisden, gent.

VISITATION OF BEDFORDSHIRE

FISHE—

Margaret, daughter of William Fishe of Stanford in the parish of Southill married (1) William Finch of Biglesworth Co., Beds. and (2) Robert Raymond ofCo., Essex, Minister.

THE VISITATIONS OF ESSEX

SPARROW.

William Sparrow, of Sable Hedingham, gent, (died 23-7-1611) m. Joane, daug. of John Finch of Gestingthorpe.

JOSSELYN.

Frances, daug. of Henry Josselyn, 4th son of Sir Thomas Josselyn, now the widow of Sir Francis Finch, Knight. (Vis. of 1558).

GOODDAY.

John Goodday of Sapesworth, (Sawbridgworth) in com : Hartford, gent, had a daughter married to.....Finch.

THE VISITATIONS OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

FINCH OF KEMPLEY

Bartholomew Finch went out of Kent to Bushey, near Wickham, Co. Bucks. He married a daughter of Erle, and had a son, Henry Finch of Kempley, Co. Gloucester, Esquire (ob 22nd August 1631) who married Anne, daughter and coheirress of Lennord Pigott of Whaddon, Co. Bucks. Their son, Francis Finch of Kempley aforesaid, married Jane, daughter of John Thornborough, Bishop of Worcester, by whom he had four sons, viz :—John, Alexander, Henry, and Russell, and six daughters, viz :—Elizabeth, Anne, Jane, Frances, Amy, and Mary.

INQUISITION POST MORTEM

HENRY FINCH, ESQUIRE

Inquisition taken at Tewkesbury, 24th July, 8 Charles I (1632) before John Driver, gentleman, escheator, after the death of Henry Finch, Esq., by the Oath of Richard Hatch, gent., Charles Cartwright, Thomas Bicke, Humphrey Jeynes, Robert

Slicer, William Jorden, Henry Kent, William Heynes, John Purse, Edward Jeynes, Ralph Jeynes, John Edwards, Henry Edwards, Thomas Yeend and Robert Little, who say that:—

Henry Fynche was seised of the manors of Kempley als Kemptley, Oxenhall als Oxnall, and Occle Gransham als Occle Grandesome ; 120 messuages, 30 cottages, 10 tofts, 2 mills, 50 gardens, 1000 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, 400 acres of pasture, 600 acres of wood, 300 acres of furze and heath to the said manors belonging lying in the parishes of Kempley Oxenhall and Newent ; and 40 acres of arable land called Gardiners Brooke house, Woodmans Swynes house, and Millfield lying in Oxenhall.

The said Henry Fynch being so seised a fine was levied, Michaelmas, 17 James I (1619), between Benjamin Thornburghe, Knight, and Thomas Bayles, Esq.; plaintiffs, and Henry Fynch, Esq., and Anne his wife deforciantes of the manors of Kempley, Oxenhall, and Occle Gransham, 120 messuages, 30 cottages, 10 tofts, 2 mills, 50 gardens, 1000 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, 400 acres of pasture, 600 acres of wood, 300 acres of furze and heath, and 100s. of rent in Kempley, Oxenhall, Occle Grandesome and Newent ; and of 20 acres of land, 10 acres of pasture, and 10 acres of wood in Upton Bushoppe and Markle Magna, in the county of Hereford, to the following uses : as to the manor of Kempley and all the premises in Kempley, to the use of Anne then the wife of the said Henry Fynch, for her life in the name of her jointure; after her decease to the use of the said Henry Fynch for his life: and after his decease to the use of Jane, wife of Francis Fynche, son and heir apparent of the said Henry, for her life ; and after her decease to the use of the said Francis Fynch and his heirs by the said Jane ; for default to the use of the heirs of the said Francis ; and for default to the use of the said Henry Fynch and his heirs for ever. As to the manors of Oxenhall and Occle Gransham and all the messuages, lands and tenements in Oxnall, Occle Gransham, and Newent to the use of the said Henry Fynch for 100 years and after the expiration of that term then to the use of the said Jane during the lives of the said Henry Fynch and Anne, if the said Jane so long shall live. After the determination of the estate of the said Jane, then to the use of the said Henry Fynch for his natural life, and afterwards successively to the use of the said Francis Fynch and his heirs by the said Jane, of the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, and of the right heirs of the said Henry Fynch. Of whom or by what service the manor of Kempley is held the jurors know not ; it is worth per annum, clear, £5. The manors of Oxnall and Occle Grandesome are held of the King in chief by knight's service, and are worth per annum, clear, £3 6s. The said 40 acres of land are held of the King in chief by knight's service, but by what part of a knight's fee the jurors know not, and are worth per annum, clear, 33s. Henry Fynch died at Kempley 22nd August last past ; Francis Fynch is his son and next heir, and was then aged 28 years and more. The said Anne still survives at Gloucester.

THE VISITATIONS OF LINCOLN

FINCH

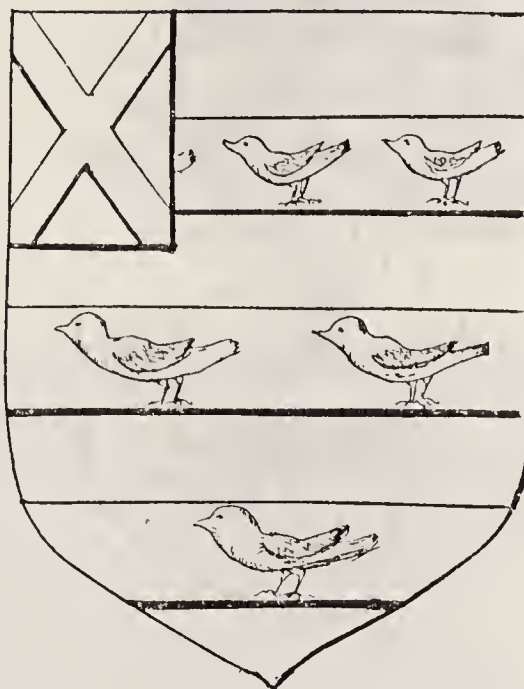
Arms.

Sable, on three bars Or, six finches vert, beaks and legs purple, 3, 2, and 1 ; on a canton gules a saltire argent.

In the pedigree of Tomworth or Thomworth, these Arms are tricked (see Harley M.S. No. 1550 fol. 167).

The only Finch record therein is "ffynch m. Blanch Nobell of ye house of Westnd land."

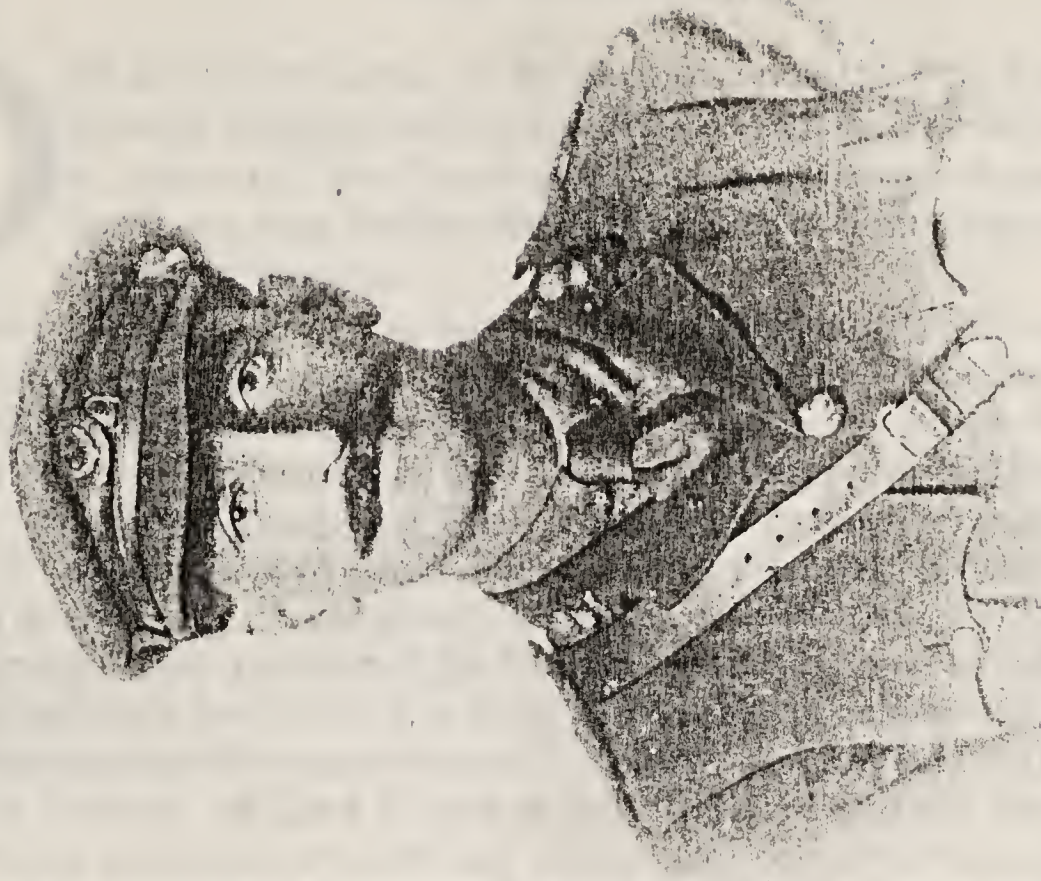
These Arms are recorded as having been granted by Sir Christopher Barker, Knight, Garter King of Arms, to one James Finch, whose daughter and co-heir Margaret married John Dawes of London, Alderman.







GEORGE HENRY FINCH, ESQ. M.P.



W. H. M. FINCH, ESQ.
(of Burley-on-the-Hill)

CHAPTER 7

THE TWISDEN M.S.

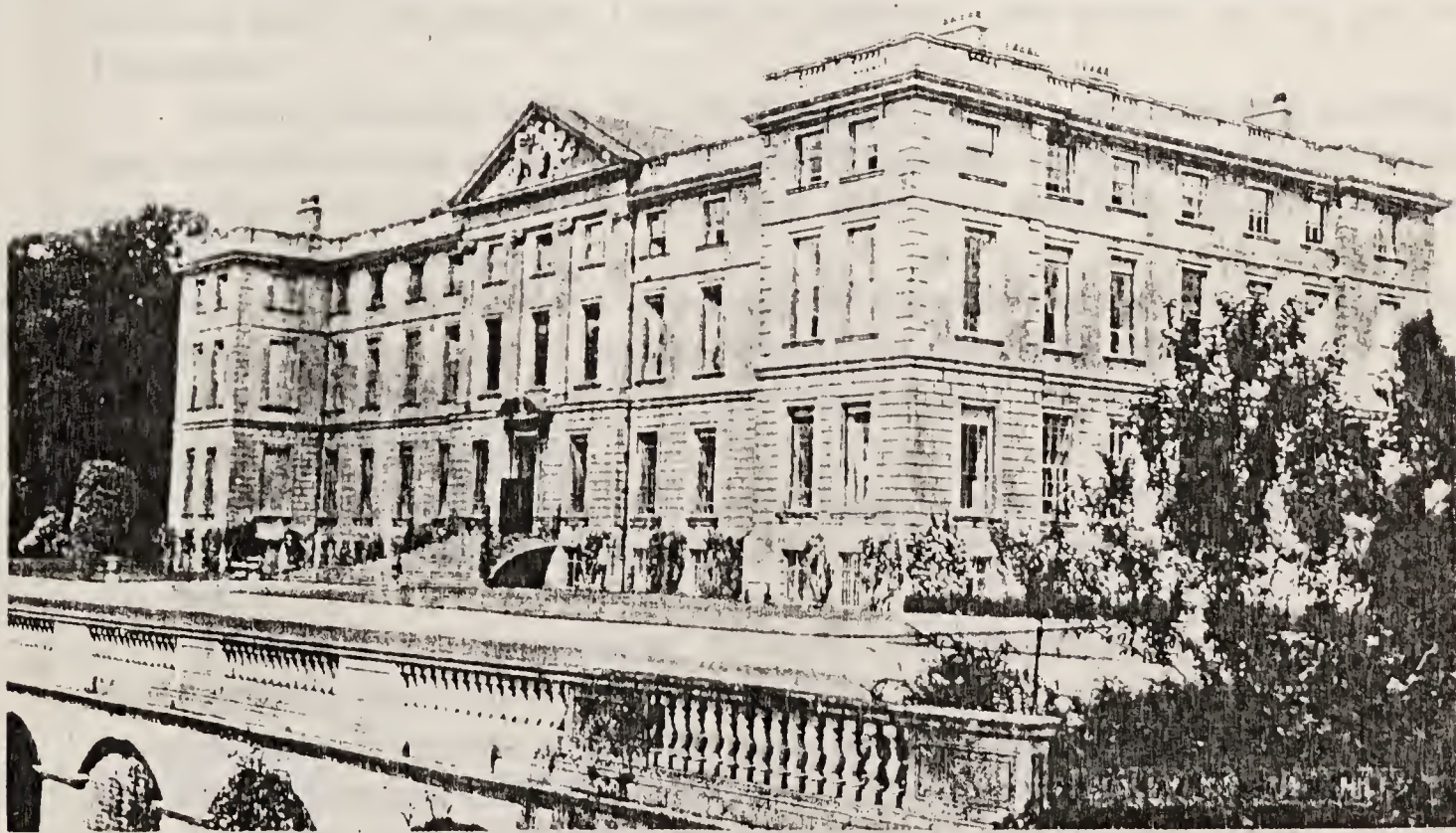
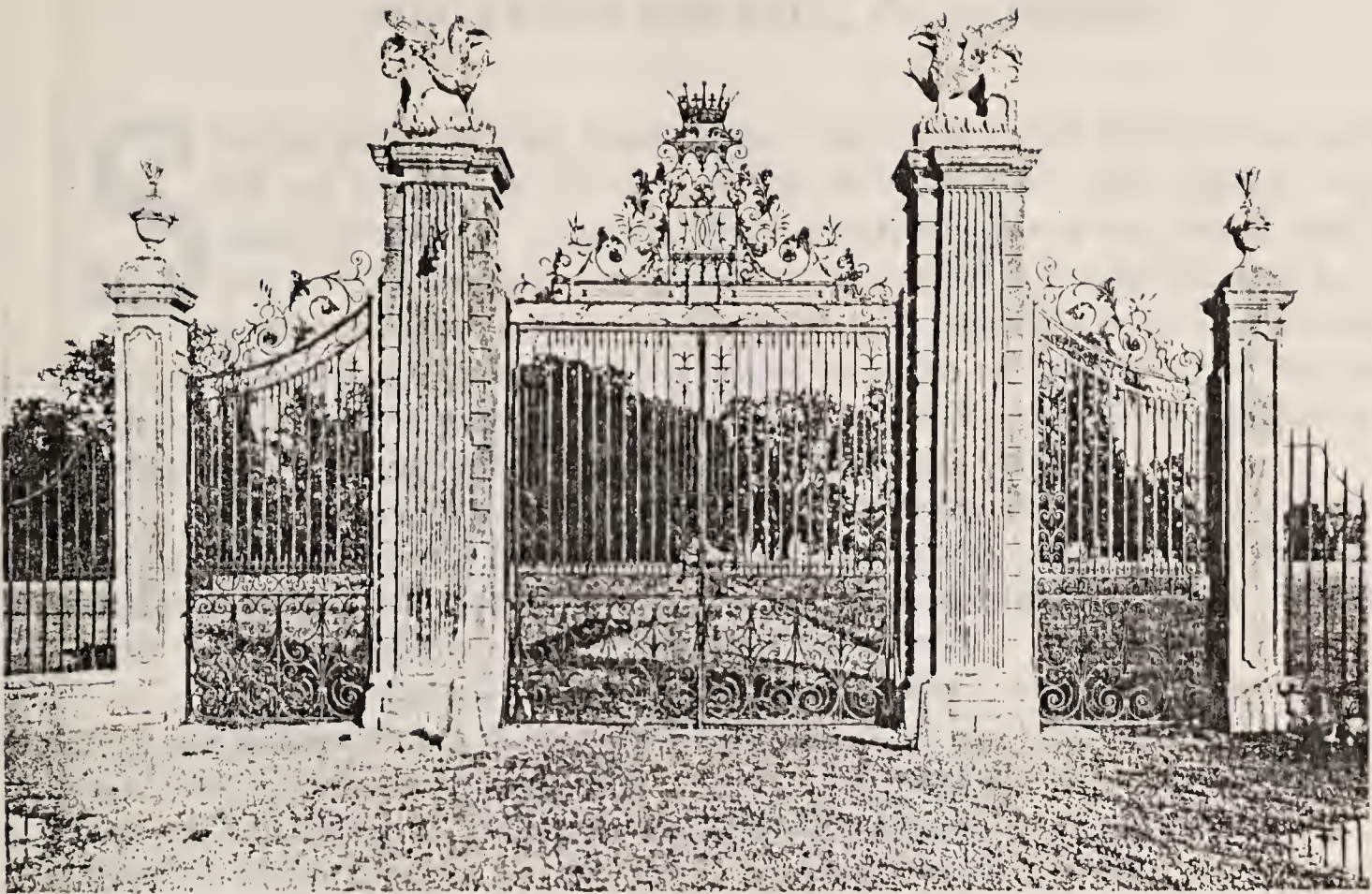
DIES JUNE vizt quinto de Novembris Ano Dni 1554 Filius et heres meus Thomas Heneage duxit ad uxorem Annam Poynez un filiarii Nihic Poynez de Acton in Com Glouc milit. The 18th day of August Ano 1555 was borne my sonn Robert Heneage at Acton in the County of Gloucest at 11 a clock at night.

The 9th of July 1556 was borne my daughter Elizabeth Heneage at 7 of the clock in the morning in my house at London. Uppon Monday the 27th of July Ano 1556 dyed my father Robert Heneage Esquire in his house in London and was buried in St Katherine Christ Church. Upon Saturday the 10th of December in the first yeare of the reigne of Queene Elizabeth dyed my brother Robert Heneage at ten of the clock before noone. Elizabeth Heneage was maryed to Moyle Finch on Monday the 4th day of November in the yeare of the Lord 1572 at Heneage House in London (the son and heir of Sir Thomas Finch of Estwell in the County of Kent). Theophilus Finch was borne the 2 day of October betweene the houres of 7 and 8 in the afternoone at Heneage House in London in the yeare of our Lord 1573 on Thursday (The Queene, my Lord Treasurer and my Ld. of Lester). Ann Finch was borne at H. House in London the 28th day of February being Monday a little before one a clock in the afternoone in the yeare of the Lord 1575 as I take it 1574. Shee was after marryed to Wm. Twysden of East Peckham in Kent as is to be seene afterwards (Roger Twysden). (My La. of Warwick and Bedford, Mr Vice Chamberlaine Hatton). Heneage Finch was borne at H. House in London the 25th day of September being Tuesday at 6 a clocke at afternoone in the yeare of the Lord 1576 (my Lady Walsingham, Sir Francis Cary, Sir Wm Fitz William). Thomas Finch was borne at H. House in London the 13th day of June a little before one a clock in the afternoone beeing Fryday in the yeare of the Lord 1578 (my Ld. of Buckhurst, my Ld. chiefe Baron, my selfe). John Finch was born at H. House in London 22th of November beeing Sunday at 8 a clock in the morninge in the year of our Lord 1579 (my Lo. Russell, my Lo. Cobham, my La. Dacres). Heneage Finch was borne at Mote neare Canterbury the 15th day of Decemb being Thursday at 9 a clock afternoone Ano Dm 1580 (Mr Heneage my husband, Mr Setlenger, my Lady Manwood). Katherine Finch was borne at H. House in London 29th of January 1582 on a Monday about 3 a clock in the morninge (Mrs Cooke, Mrs Wotton, Mr Smith). Elizabeth Finch was borne at Heneage House the 12th day of November 1583 betweene the houres of 4 and 5 in the afternoone being Tuesday (Mrs Barrett, Mrs Gresham, my cosen George Heneage). Francis Finch was borne at Heneage House the 24th of March 1586 soone after 7 in the morninge being Thursday (my La. Sidbey, Sir Hen Darcy, Sr. Drew Drury). Elizabeth Finch was borne at Heneage House the 12th of January 1589 halfe an houre after 3 of the clock in the afternoone being Sunday (my La Gerrett, my La Shirley of Sussex, Sir Jo Peter). William Finch was borne at Heneage House at London the

24th of Aprill 1591 15 minutes before 7 a clock in the morninge being Saturday (Sir Tho Scott, Sir Jo Poinez, my La Sandes). Ann Finch was maryed to William Twisden the sonne and heire of Roger Twisden of Peckham in the County of Kent on Monday being the 4th of October 1591 at Heneage House in London by Alexander Nowell then Dean of Powles who likewise maryed her mother to Sir Moyle Finch.

This note (taken out of a parchmt booke, in wch this before was written by my Lady Heneage the wife of Sir Thomas Heneage) was given me by my Cosen, Michael Heneage on Thursday the 24th of July 1646 I beeing desirous to know the tyme of the birth and maryage of my mother the Lady Twisden.

On Thursday the 30th of July 1646 my Cosen Mr. Heneage Finch sonn and heire of Sir Heneage Finch, Recorder of London, was maryed to Mrs Elizabeth Harvy eldest daughter of Mr Daniel Harvy of London by Doctor Holdsworth at a little church in London Wall between Bishopsgate and Moore-gate but the wedding was kept at Carlisle House in Lambeth being then her fathers Mr Harvys house. By her he had his eldest sonn borne ye 2 of July 1647 being Fryday about a qter of an houre after 8 a clock in the morning or somewhat more which was christened by one Mr Bernard on Thursday following beeing the 8th day of the said month of July and called Daniel, his Godfathers were my uncle Francis Finch and Daniel Harvy his father and God-mother my Cosen Heneage his mother in law the Lady Finch his fathers second wife.



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL.

CHAPTER 8

BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL, Co. RUTLAND

Shortly after retiring from Office, Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham (he did not succeed to the title of Earl of Winchilsea until shortly before his death) decided to acquire a new country residence and estate, and, the old Duke of Buckingham being at that time (1694) in financial straits, his various properties came on the market and were considered by Lord Nottingham who decided upon a journey to Yorkshire to make an inspection of the Helmsley Estate. On his way there he rested at Oakham, and he chanced to see Burley which, owing to its attractions and charming situation, took his fancy.

Before coming into the hands of Buckingham, Burley had belonged to the Despensers, and it was here that the warrior Bishop (of Norwich) had assembled troops for his "crusade" against John Lister, the leader of Wat Tyler's rebels after their leader (Tyler) had been slain at Smithfield.

Later, the Harringtons of Exton owned Burley, and during their occupation they were honoured by a visit from King James I.

When acquired by the first Duke of Buckingham, very large sums were laid out on enlargements and improvements, his desire being, apparently, to have a mansion house superior to Belvoir. It was here when on a visit to Buckingham by King Charles I that Ben Jonson's "Masque of the Gypsies" was performed, and at the banquet in honour of the Royal visit, one Jeffrey Hudson described as "the smallest man in the smallest County in England" was served up in a pie to Queen Henrietta.

During the Civil Wars, the Parliamentary troops occupied and fortified Burley (and probably it was at this time that the beautifully sculptured effigies (in alabaster) in Oakham Church—now removed and placed in the little Church adjoining the mansion—were mutilated.)

During the Roundhead occupation there was a scare that the Royalists were marching in great force to Burley, which was hurriedly evacuated and set on fire, and the whole building, excepting the stabling now incorporated in the Colonnade, was practically destroyed.

Lord Nottingham acquired the property which was then practically a ruin, and commenced building operations which appear to have been quite an engrossing pastime.

The ruins of the ancient mansion were demolished in 1695 under Lord Nottingham's supervision. He even appears to have been his own architect—like many others of his rank at that time. In this he probably followed in the footsteps of Viscount Conway (who had married his Aunt) who had, himself, built Ragley.

It is known that he employed one Henry Dormer to act as his Clerk or Superintendent of Works.

Probably Nottingham got his ideas for the Colonnade during his visit to Rome in 1665, as, in many respects, they resemble Bernini's huge Colonnade in front of St. Peter's which was in the course of completion at the time of the Earl's visit.

Lord Nottingham's original intention was to expend £15000 on the re-building of Burley, but before its completion, the figure had grown to £80000.

It was not until 1705 that the roof of the building was commenced.

The carved Coat of Arms and supporters, shown in one of the illustrations, is the work of Salvator Musco, who received £10 for his work in 1698.

The great iron gates are the work of Joshua Lord from designs by Tijou, who had been similarly employed on other mansions in the neighbourhood.

The terraces were there in Buckingham's time, and were preserved. Repton, however, removed part and made many alterations in 1795. Perhaps it would have been to Burley's advantage had Repton never seen it.

The great staircase was completed in 1708, and it was not until about two years later that Lord Nottingham took up his residence here.

There are so many beautiful features about Burley that the selection of illustrations appearing in this volume has been made with some little difficulty, but it is hoped that those reproduced will serve to give the proper impression of the ancestral home of the Earls of Nottingham.

On the death of Daniel, the 2nd Earl, the property passed to his son Daniel, 3rd Earl of Nottingham and 7th Winchilsea, and thence as he left no male issue by his Will to his Nephew, George Finch, who succeeded him as 4th Earl of Nottingham and 8th of Winchilsea.

By reference to the pedigree it will be observed that the Uncle of George Finch, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham had assumed the additional surname of Hatton, clearly from a perusal of the Will of the 8th Earl, much to his dislike and disapproval, as he makes special stipulations in his Will to the effect that those succeeding to any portions of his considerable estate shall take no surname in addition to that of Finch. He leaves George William Finch-Hatton entirely out of his Will and, as the Burley estate was not entailed, he bequeathed it to his kinsman and adopted son, George Finch, whose grandson, Wilfred Henry Montgomery Finch is the present owner, and to whom the Author is indebted, and to his sister, Miss Jasmine Finch, for the photographs used to form the illustrations to this Chapter.

In Neale's views of the Seats and Arms published about the year 1824 is an engraving of Burley, with some account of the mansion house. He says " the North front is 196 feet in length, and that the colonnade consists of 32 single columns on either side." It has been remarked elsewhere that the Lodges of entrance were pulled down towards the close of the 18th century, but Neale refers to them in 1824. He says " A very large Court is enclosed with iron palissades, and two handsome lodges of entrance. There is a noble terrace on the south, 40 feet broad and 300 yards in length, from whence is a magnificent view over the grounds and adjacent country."



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL.

FINCH OF BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL

Jane, dau : of Vice Adml : John Richard Delap Tollemache by his wife the Lady Elizabeth Stratford	==	George Finch Esquire of Burley-on-the-Hill J.P. & D.L. for co., Rutland. Lord of 7 Manors. Kinsman & the adopted son of George Finch, 8th Earl of Winchilsea & 4th of Nottingham. b. 1794 m. (1) 1819 (2) 22-10-1832 ob. 29-6-1870	==	Lady Louisa Elizabeth Somerset 5th dau : of Henry Charles 5th Duke of Beaufort.
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(1) Emily Eglantine d. of John Balfour of Balbirnis co., Fife Esquire ob. Apl 1865	==	George Henry Finch M.P. for Co., Rutland b. 20-2-1835 m. (1) 1-2-1861 (2) Augt 1871 ob. 1907	==	(2) Edith d. of Alfred Montgomery Esquire ob. 1926
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Alan George Finch
—
Magdalen

Gwendolina m. Evan
Hanbury Esqre :
in 1886.

Somerset Alfred
George Finch Esquire
m. 1917 ob. 1924

== Elsie R.
Sanderson

Somerset George Finch
b. 1918.

Wilfred Henry Montgomery
Finch Esquire
now of Burley-on-the-Hill

Edith Sibyl Mary
m. Laurence Currie
of Minley Manor
Farnborough, Hants
Esquire

Essex

Jasmine Cecilia

Verona Cecil
m. in 1907
Walter
Maxwell-Lyte Esquire

Margaret Georgina

Henry Randolph Finch == Katherine d. of
Sir Henry Fludyer Bart :
of Ayston Hall co.,
Rutland

Louisa
—
Charlotte Elizabeth
m. 5-1-1882
Revd : George Waller
M.A.

James Finch Emily Eglantine
d. of Evan Hanbury
Esquire.

Vere Finch == Florence
of The Croft
Manton
Co., Rutland
Esquire. d. of
The Hon :
Ralph
Harbord

John Finch

Mary

Elsie

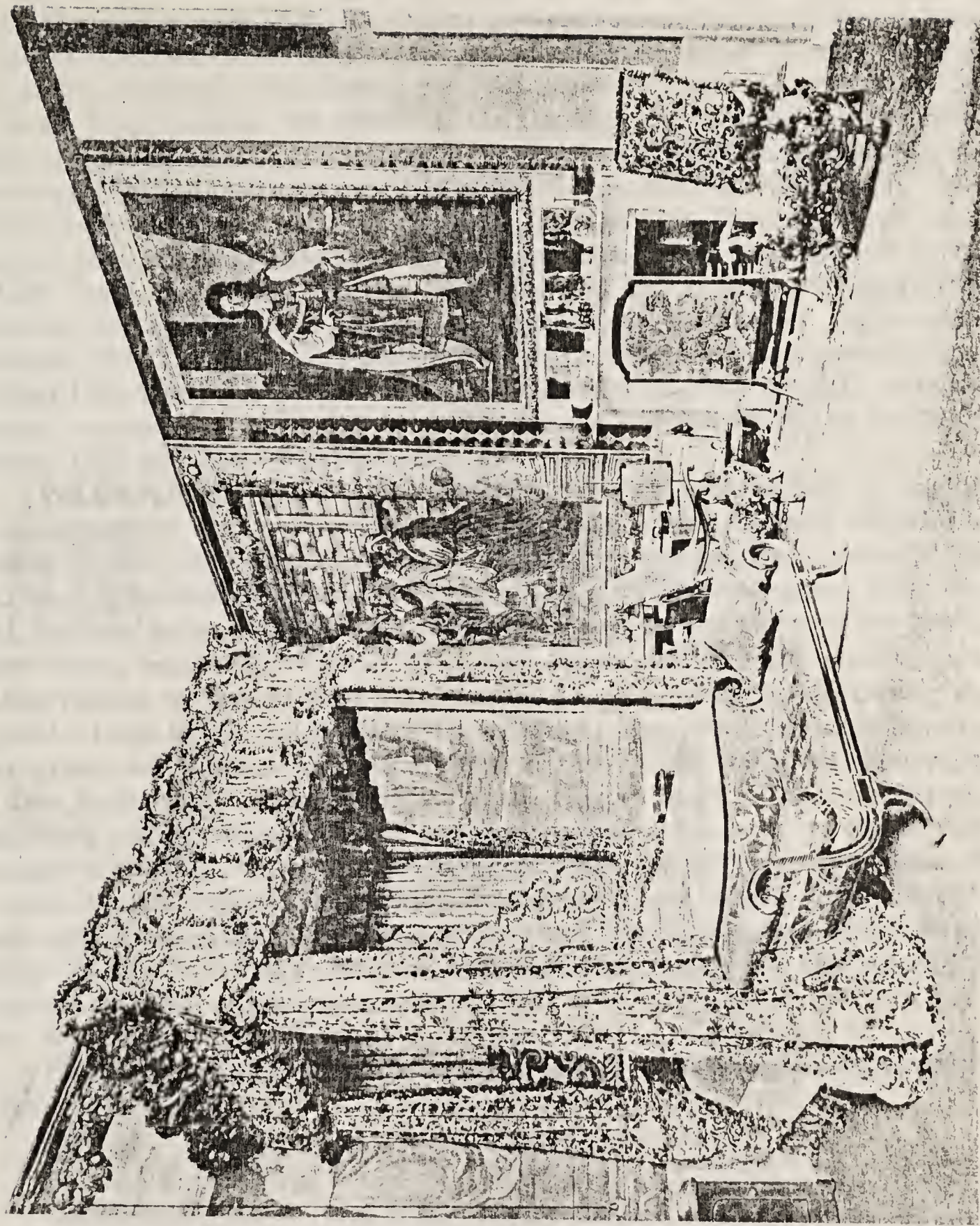
Ruby

CHAPTER 9

BIOGRAPHIES PART I

MARY FINCH (ob : 1557).—One of the gentlewomen of the Privy Chamber to Queen Mary I, was the daughter and heiress of Christopher Kemp, and wife of Laurence Finch, eldest son of Sir William Finch of The Moat, near Canterbury, who died during his father's lifetime (see pedigree). She was buried in the Parish Church of Maldstone, having died at Allington which is on the outskirts of Maidstone. She was in great favour with both Phillip and Mary. Her Will contains some rather interesting details, e.g.: "I most humbly beseech the Queen's most excellent Majesty to accept and take a ring of gold which the King's Highness gave me, as a signification of my most thankful mynde to her grace for her great benefit done to me." There is also provision for the expenditure of part of her personal estate on the making of 48 gold rings each engraved with "the figure of death" for presentation to 48 persons specifically named by her. There being no children of her marriage, the estates in Sussex and Kent including Eastwell were inherited by her husband's younger brother, Sir Thomas Finch, grand-father of the first Earl of Winchilsea.

SIR THOMAS FINCH (Military Commander)—was second son of Sir William Finch, who was knighted for his services at the siege of Terouenne in 1513, and attended Henry VIII with a great retinue in 1520. His mother, his father's first wife, was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Crouner, of Tunstall, Kent, and widow of Sir Richard Lovelace. An elder brother, Lawrence, died without issue, and Thomas succeeded to his father's property. He was trained as a soldier, and in 1553 was engaged in suppressing Wyatt's rebellion in Kent. On the day after Mary's coronation (2nd October 1553) he was knighted. Soon after Elizabeth's accession, Nicholas Harpsfeld, Archdeacon of Canterbury, threatened violent resistance to the new ecclesiastical legislation, and Finch was despatched to Canterbury to disarm his household. Early in 1563 he was appointed in succession to Sir Adrian Poynings, Knight-marshal of the army then engaged in war about Havre. He at once sent his half-brother, Erasmus, to take temporary charge, and his kinsman Thomas Finch to act as Provost-marshal. He, himself, embarked in the "Greyhound" in March with two hundred followers, among them James and John Wentworth, brothers of Lord Wentworth, another brother of his own, a brother of Lord Cobham, and a nephew of Ambrose Dudley, Earl of Warwick. When nearing Havre the ship was driven back by contrary winds towards Rye. Finch and his friends induced the Captain—"a very good seaman" says Stow—"to thrust into the haven before the tide," and "so they all perished" with the exception of "seven of the meaner sort" (19th March). The news reached the Court two days later and produced great consternation. A ballad commemorating the misfortune was licensed to Richard Griffith at the time, Finch was buried in Eastwell Church, Kent.



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL.

(The State Bedroom)

Sir Thomas married Catherine, daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Moyle, Chancellor of the court of augmentations, and thus came into possession of Moyle's property of Eastwell at his death, 2nd October 1560. He owned other land in Kent, and on 9th December 1558 Aloisi Pruili, Cardinal Pole's secretary, requested Cecil to direct Finch to allow the officers of the Cardinal, then just dead, to dispose of oxen, hay, wood, and deer belonging to their late master in St. Augustine's Park, Canterbury. His widow re-married Nicholas St. Leger, and died 9th February 1586-7. Of his children, three sons and a daughter survived him. The second son was Sir Henry Finch; the third, Thomas, died without issue in the expedition to Portugal in 1589. The daughter, Jane, married on 8th October 1582 at Eastwell, George Wyatt of Bexley, son of Sir Thomas Wyatt of Allington, Kent. Finch's heir, Moyle, created a Baronet 27th May 1611, married in 1574 Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Heneage, of Copt Hall, Essex; inherited Eastwell on his mother's death in 1587; obtained a license to enclose one thousand acres of land there, and to embattle his house, 18th January 1589, and died 14th December 1614.

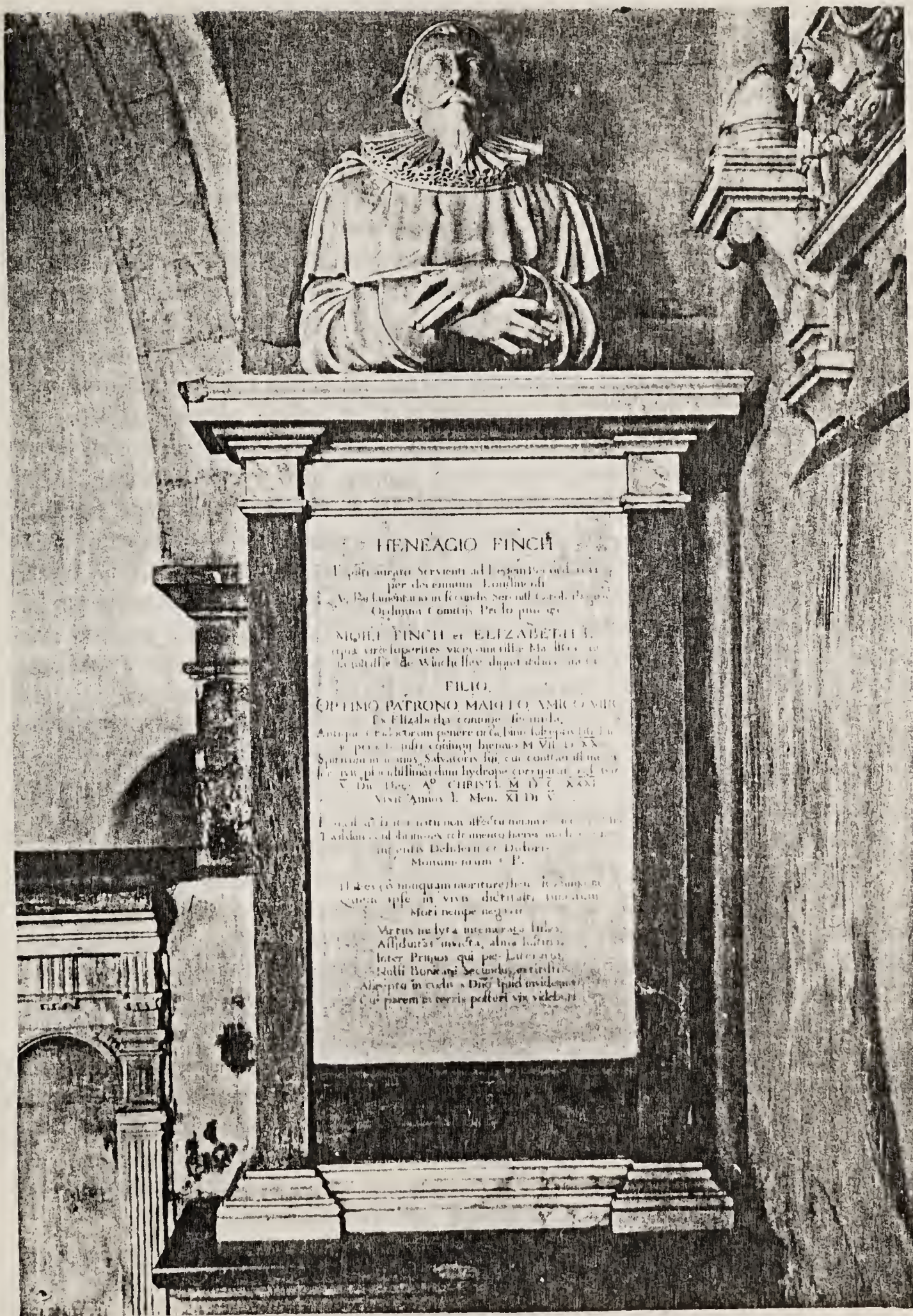
WILLIAM FINCH (died 1613), Merchant, was a native of London. He was agent to an expedition sent by the East India Company, under Captains Hawkins and Keeling, in 1607, to treat with the Great Mogul. Hawkins and Finch landed at Surat on 24th August 1608. They were violently opposed by the Portuguese. Finch, however, obtained permission from the Governor of Cambay to dispose of the goods in their vessels. Incited by the Portuguese, who seized two of the English ships, the natives refused to have dealings with the Company's representatives. During these squabbles Finch fell ill, and Hawkins, proceeding to Agra alone, obtained favourable notice from the Emperor Jehanghire. Finch recovered, and joined Hawkins at Agra on 14th April 1610. The two remained at the Mogul's court for about a year and a half, Finch refusing tempting offers to attach himself permanently to the service of Jehanghire. Hawkins returned to England, but Finch delayed his departure in order to make further explorations, visiting Byana and Lahore, among other places. He made careful observations on the commerce and natural products of the districts visited. In 1612, the Mogul Emperor confirmed and entered the privileges he had promised to Finch and Hawkins, and the East India Company in that year set up their first little factory at Surat.

Finch died at Babylon on his way to Aleppo from drinking poisoned water in August 1613.

SIR HENRY FINCH (died 1625), Serjeant-at-Law, was the second son of Sir Thomas Finch, of Eastwell, Kent, by Catherine, daughter of heiress and Sir Thomas Moyle. His elder brother, Sir Moyle Finch, was the father of Sir Heneage Finch, Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Charles I, whose son Heneage first Earl of Nottingham was Lord Chancellor to Charles II. Sir Henry Finch was educated, according to Wood, "for a time" at Oriel College, Oxford, where, however, he seems to have taken no degree, and was admitted of Gray's Inn in 1577,

and called to the Bar there in 1585. He seems to be identical with a certain Henry Finch of Canterbury, who held from the Archbishop a lease of Salmstone Rectory, except the timber and the advowson, between 1583 and 1660. In February 1592-3 he was returned to Parliament for Canterbury, and he retained the seat at the election of 1597. He became an "ancient" of his Inn in 1593, and the same year was appointed counsel to the Cinque Ports. He was reader at his Inn in the autumn of 1604, and in 1613 was appointed Recorder of Sandwich. On 11th June 1616 he was called to the degree of Serjeant-at-Law, and was knighted at Whitehall 20th June 1616. At this time he was engaged, in conjunction with Bacon, Noy and others, upon an abortive attempt at codifying the statute law described by Bacon as "the reducing of concurrent statutes heaped one upon another to one clear and uniform law." About the same time his opinion was taken by the King on the "conveniency" of monopoly patents, and to him, jointly with Bacon and Montague, was entrusted the conduct of the business connected with the patent intended to be granted to the Inns of Court. He took part in the argument on the question whether baronets ranked as bannerets before the King and council on 6th April 1612. In 1621 he published a work entitled "The World's Great Restauration, or calling of the Jews, and with them of all Nations and Kingdoms of the Earth to the Faith of Christ," in which he seems to have predicted as in the near future the restoration of temporal dominion to the Jews and the establishment by them of a world-wide empire. This caused King James to treat the work as a libel, and accordingly, Finch was arrested in April 1621. He obtained his liberty by disavowing all such portions of the work as might be construed as derogatory to the Sovereign, and apologising for having written unadvisedly. Laud, in a sermon preached in July 1621, took occasion to animadvert on the book. It was suppressed, and is now extremely rare. He must have been in embarrassed circumstances in 1623, as his son John having become surety for him was only protected from arrest for debt by an order under the sign-manual. He died in October 1625, and was buried in the Parish Church of Boxley, Kent. By his wife Ursula, daughter of John Thwaites of Kent, he was father of John, Lord Finch of Fordwich, and of Edward, the Royalist divine. He wrote several legal works of considerable merit.

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, Knight, Recorder of London, who resided in the parish of St. Bartholomew the Great, London, Speaker of the House of Commons, 4th surviving son of Sir Moyle Finch, Knight and Baronet of Eastwell Kent, was born at The Moat near Canterbury, 15th December 1580. His mother was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Heneage, of Copt Hall, Essex, and grand-daughter on the mother's side of Thomas, Lord Berkeley, of Berkeley Castle. He was admitted a member of the Inner Temple in November 1597, and called to the Bar in 1606. At a bye-election in 1607 he was returned to Parliament for Rye. He spoke in July 1610 in the debate on 'impositions' maintaining the following positions: (1) "that the King, though upon a restraint for a time, may impose for a time, much more for ever"; (2) "that he may dispense with a law for ever, because the law is for



SIR HENEAGE FINCH, RECORDER OF LONDON.
(Monument in Eastwell Church)

ever"; (3) "that he may make a bulwark in any land, but not take money not to do it"; (4) "that the King hath power only to make war. If all the subjects will make war without the King, it is no war." He was one of the lawyers who argued before King James I, and his council on 6th April 1612 the moot point "whether baronets and bannerets were the same promiscuously"; and desiring to give dignity to the argument, opened "with a philosophical preamble" at which the King, being much displeased said "though I am a King of men, yet I am no king of time, for I grow old with this," and therefore, if he had anything to speak to the matter, bade him utter it. Whereupon Finch, with great boldness, "undertook to prove much but did nothing." In 1616 he was employed in conjunction with Bacon in an attempt to reduce the statute law to some sort of consistency with itself. In 1620-1 he was returned to parliament for West Looe, other Portpighan, Cornwall. He took part in the debate of 3rd December 1621 on the Spanish match, supporting the proposal to petition the King against it. In the preceding February he had been appointed recorder of London (Index to Remembrancia p. 295) and he represented the City in parliament between 1623 and 1626. On 22nd June 1623 he was knighted at Wanstead, and three days later he was made a Serjeant-at-Law. The following July his mother, Lady Finch, widow of Sir Moyle Finch, was created Viscountess Maidstone, with remainder to her heirs male. This honour was procured through the interest of Sir Arthur Ingram, at the price of a capital sum of £13000, and an annuity of £500, to secure which Copt Hall Manor and Park were mortgaged. On 12th July 1628 she was created Countess of Winchilsea also with remainder to her heirs male. Sir Heneage's eldest living brother Thomas (Theophilus Finch having died in his mother's lifetime) succeeded her as first Earl of Winchilsea. On 7th July 1625 Finch read the report of a committee of the House of Commons to which had been referred the consideration of two works recently published by Richard Montagu, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, viz.; "A New Gag for an Old Goose" and "Apello Caesarem," which were thought to savour somewhat rankly of Arminianism and popery. The result of the report was that the publication of the books was treated as a breach of privilege and Montagu arrested. The plague then raging severely, the debtors in the Fleet petitioned the House of Commons for a habeas corpus. Finch on 9th July spoke in favour of granting a release, but so as to save the rights of the creditors. On 9th August he was present at a conference with the Lords touching certain pardons illegally granted by the King to some jesuits, but is not recorded to have done more than read the lord-keepers speech. On 10th August he spoke in favour of granting the subsidies in reversion demanded by the King, but advised that the grant should be accompanied with a protestation never to do the like upon any necessity hereafter. On 6th February 1625-6 he was elected Speaker of the House of Commons. His speech at the opening of Parliament was divided between the conventional self-abasement, praise of the "temperate" character of the laws, "yielding a due observance to the prerogative royal, and yet preserving the right and liberty of the subject," fulsome flattery of the King, and denunciation of popery and Spain. In 1628 he was elected to the bench of his Inn. On 10th April 1631 he was

nominated one of the commissioners for the repair of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Finch married twice. His first wife was Frances, daughter of Sir Edmund Bell of Beaupré Hall, Norfolk, and grand-daughter of Sir Robert Bell, Chief baron of the Exchequer and Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Elizabeth. She died on 11th April 1627, and on 16th April 1629 Finch married at St. Dunstan's in the West, Elizabeth, daughter of William Cradock of Staffordshire, relict of Richard Bennett, mercer and alderman of London, an ancestor of the Earl of Arlington. By his first wife Finch had issue seven sons and four daughters. His eldest son, Heneage, was lord-keeper and first Earl of Nottingham. Another son, Sir John, was a physician. For the hand of Mrs. Bennett, who brought Finch a fortune, he had several rivals, among them Sir Sackville Crow, and Dr. Raven, a conjunction which afforded much amusement to the town. Another suitor was Sir Edward Dering. By this lady, Finch had issue two daughters only (1) Elizabeth, who married Edward Madison, and (2) Anne, who married Edward, Viscount and Earl of Conway.

Finch compiled "A Brief Collection touching the Power and Jurisdiction of Bishops" which remains in manuscript.

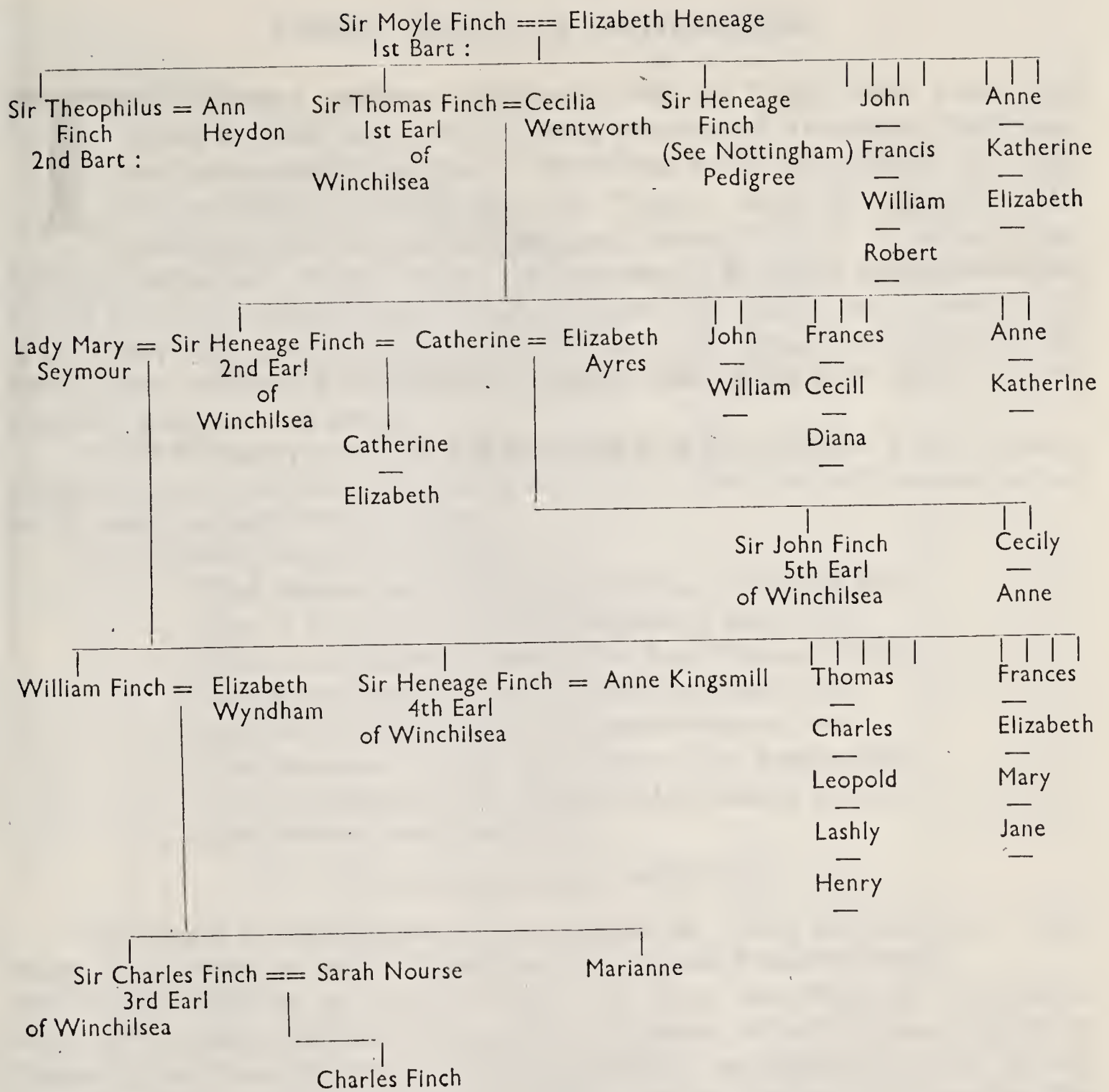
It is incorrectly stated in the Dictionary of National Biography that he was buried at Ravenstone in Buckinghamshire. By reference to the illustrations, it will be found that he was interred in Eastwell Church, Kent, in accordance with the desire expressed in his Will (dated 16th April 1631 and proved by his executor Thomas Twisden on 7th December 1631—P.C.C. 132 St. John) which reads: "I earnestly desire to be buried in Eastwell Church in the vault where my most noble father and my dearly beloved wife together with the first pledge of our love our first sonne lye all interred and where a poore monument in remembrance of my wife and my selfe is already erected."

The wording of his Will is typical of the man. It commences: "It behoves every man soe to think of other mens businesses as not to neglect his owne and it becomes every christian as well out of providence for his family as out of consideracion of his owne frailtie not to leave his estate unsettled and undisposed."



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL.

THE WINCHILSEA PEDIGREE



CHAPTER 10

FINCH, EARLS OF WINCHILSEA

THE following pedigree commences with Sir Moyle Finch, Baronet, of Eastwell Place, Kent, whose widow was created Viscountess Maidstone, and subsequently Countess of Winchilsea, being succeeded in the titles by her eldest surviving son, Sir Thomas Finch, 3rd Baronet. The monument to her and Sir Moyle in Eastwell Church is amongst the illustrations. Philipott Rouge Dragon and afterwards Somerset Herald examined the old deeds and records in the monument room and found complete evidence as to the family name having originally been Herbert, and appears to have done this shortly after the death of Sir Moyle, and before the Visitation of 1619-21, as the descent is fully recorded there.

It will be observed that on the Restoration of King Charles II that monarch conferred the title of Baron Fitz Herbert on the 2nd Earl. This title became extinct on the death of the 5th Earl in 1729.

The following record is of interest :—

“ 30th September 1726 died the Rt. Hon : Heneage Finch
“ Earl of Winchilsea, Viscount Maidstone, Baron Fitz
“ Herbert, of Eastwell, Lord of the Royal Manor of Wye,
“ and Baronet of the Cholick in the 70th year of his
“ age after a week's illness at Eastwell aforesaid. At
“ the Revolution he was a gentleman of the Bedchamber
“ to King James 2nd and Colonel of the Guards, but since
“ that time retired from Court.”

THE WINCHILSEA PEDIGREE

In Chapter 6 the last item in the pedigree of “ Finch alias Herbert ” is Sir Moyle Finch, eldest son of Sir Thomas Finch by his wife Katherine Moyle. SIR MOYLE FINCH, of Eastwell Place, Co. Kent, was M.P. for Weymouth from 1575 to 1583 ; for Kent 1593, and for Winchilsea in 1601. He was knighted at Greenwich by Queen Elizabeth on 7th March 1584-5, and created a Baronet by King James I on 29th June 1611. He died on 18th December 1614. His Will dated 8th May 1614 with a codicil dated 13th December the same year, was proved on 24th January 1614-5 (P.C.C. 5 Rudd). He married Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Heneage, of Copt Hall, Co. Essex, on 4th November 1572, at Heneage House, London. Elizabeth's father, Sir Thomas Heneage, was Treasurer of the Chamber to Queen Elizabeth and her Vice-Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and a member of the Privy Council. He was buried above the Choir in Old St. Paul's. Elizabeth, wife of Sir Moyle Finch, died on the 13th March 1633-4, and was buried near her husband in Eastwell Church. Her Will dated 12th March 1632-3 was proved on the 27th March 1634 (P.C.C. 23 Seager). Out of recognition for the distinguished services of her father, she was created Viscountess Maidstone, and sub-



BURLEY-ON-THE-HILL.



sequently, by King Charles I, Countess of Winchilsea. Sir Moyle Finch had seven sons and three daughters.

His sons were :—

- (1) Sir Theophilus Finch, 2nd Baronet, born 2nd October 1573, married on 16th July 1596, and died in the lifetime of his mother without issue. He was knighted on 30th July 1599 by the Earl of Essex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on the rising of the camp, after the fight at Ophaley. He married Ann, daughter of Sir Christopher Heydon, Kt (she was buried on 16th February 1620-1).
- (2) Sir Thomas Finch, of whom presently.
- (3) John Finch, born 22nd November 1579, and married Anne, daughter of Thomas Walker.
- (4) Sir Heneage Finch, Serjeant-at-Law and Recorder of London, born 15th December 1580 (SEE PEDIGREE OF FINCH EARLS OF NOTTINGHAM)
- (5) Francis Finch, born 24th March 1586-7, married Anne, only daughter and heiress of Michael Barker, of Bilston, Co. Suffolk.
- (6) William Finch, born 24th April 1591.
- (7) Robert Finch.

His daughters were :—

- (1) Ann, born 28th February 1574-5, married Sir William Twisden, Bart, of East Peckham, on 4th October 1591.
- (2) Katherine, born 29th January 1582-3, married Sir John Wentworth.
- (3) Elizabeth, born 12th November 1583.

SIR THOMAS FINCH, FIRST EARL OF WINCHILSEA, eldest surviving son of Sir Moyle Finch, and Elizabeth Countess of Winchilsea, was born on 13th June 1578. He was M.P. for Winchilsea 1621-2, and for Kent, 1628-9, and died on 4th November 1639. He was buried in Eastwell Church. His Will proved on 12th October 1640 (P.C.C. 136 Coventry). During his father's lifetime, on 8th January 1608-9, he was knighted by King James I at Whitehall. He married Cecilia, daughter of John Wentworth, of Gosford, Co. Essex. She died in 1642, and was buried near her husband in Eastwell Church. Her Will was dated 17th May 1642, and was proved on 1st December the same year (P.C.C. 130 Campbell), His Lordship, the first Earl, had three sons and five daughters.

His sons were :—

- (1) Sir Heneage Finch, 2nd Earl of Winchilsea, of whom presently.
- (2) John Finch.
- (3) William Finch.

His daughters were :—

- (1) Frances, who married Sir William Strickland.
- (2) Anne, who married General Sir William Waller, Kt.
- (3) Cecill, who married Sir Erasmus Philips, Bart.
- (4) Katherine.
- (5) Diana, who married Nicholas Toke of Godington, High Sheriff in 1663.

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, 2nd EARL OF WINCHILSEA, was created Baron FitzHerbert, by King Charles II. He was Ambassador to Turkey in 1668-9. He married four wives. He married, firstly, Diana, daughter of Francis, 5th Lord Willoughby of Parham, on 2nd May 1645. She died childless. He married secondly, in 1653, Lady Mary Seymour, 2nd daughter of William, Duke of Somerset, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters.

The sons by this marriage were :—

- (1) William Finch, Viscount Maidstone, of whom presently.
- (2) Heneage Finch, afterwards 4th Earl of Winchilsea, of whom presently.
- (3) Thomas Finch, married Anne Hayden, and ob s.p.
- (4) Charles Finch, died unmarried.
- (5) Leopold Finch, D.D., Warden of All Soul's, Oxford, and Prebend of Canterbury, who married Lucy, daughter and co-heiress of John Davis, and died s.p. on 14th November 1702.
- (6) Lashly Finch, who married Barbara Scrope, and died s.p.
- (7) Henry Finch, died unmarried.

The daughters of this marriage were :—

Frances, married Thomas Thynne, Viscount Weymouth: Elizabeth, Mary, and Janè, who all three died unmarried.

His Lordship, the 2nd Earl, married thirdly, Catherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Norcliffe, widow of (a) Christopher Lister and (b) Sir John Wentworth. By this marriage, which took place on 10th April 1673, there were two daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth. His Lordship, the 2nd Earl, married fourthly on 29th October, 1681, Elizabeth only daughter and heiress of John Ayres, of London. (She died 10th April 1745). By this marriage, His Lordship had one son and two daughters :—

The son by this marriage was :—

John Finch, afterwards 5th Earl of Winchilsea.

The daughters of this marriage were :—

Cecily, and Anne, who both died unmarried.

His Lordship, the 2nd Earl, died in 1689. His Will was dated 18th August 1689, and was proved 10th September following (P.C.C. 131 Ent).

He was succeeded by :—

CHARLES FINCH, 3rd EARL OF WINCHILSEA, son of William Finch, Viscount Maidstone, oldest son of the 2nd Earl, who during his father's lifetime, was killed in a Naval fight with the Dutch on 28th May 1672. (He had married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Wyndham, of Felbrigge Hall, Norfolk, and their two children were : Charles who succeeded to the title, and a daughter Marianne, who married Philip Herbert, Esquire). The 3rd Earl was born on 20th September 1672. He was Lord Lieutenant for the County of Kent, and Lieut.-Governor of Dover Castle, and the Cinque Ports. By his wife Sarah, daughter of Henry Nourse, of Woodlands Co. Wilts, Esquire, whom he married on 22nd September 1692, he had one child, Charles Finch, born in August 1703, who died in infancy. His Lordship, the 3rd Earl, died on 14th August 1712, and was succeeded by his Uncle,



HENEAGE FINCH, 4th EARL OF WINCHELSEA.
(3rd BARON FITZHERBERT).

HENEAGE FINCH, 4th EARL OF WINCHILSEA, who married Anne, daughter of Sir William Kingsmill, of Sidmonton, Co. Southampton, and died without issue on 30th September 1726, being succeeded by his half-brother,

JOHN FINCH, 5th EARL OF WINCHILSEA, born on 24th February 1682-3, died unmarried 9th September 1729 at Queen's Square, Westminster. His Will dated 8th February 1728-9, proved 23rd September 1729 (P.C.C. 260 Abbott). On the death of the 5th Earl, without issue, the title reverted back to Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham, grandson of Sir Heneage Finch, Recorder of London, the younger brother to Sir Thomas Finch, 1st Earl of Winchilsea, and thereafter Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham became 6th Earl of Winchilsea.

CHAPTER II

JOHN FINCH, BARON FINCH OF FORDWICH

SIR JOHN FINCH, BARON FINCH OF FORDWICH (1584-1660), Speaker of the House of Commons, and Lord Keeper, son of Sir Henry Finch by Ursula, daughter of John Thwaites, was born on 17th September 1584, admitted a member of Gray's Inn in February 1600, and called to the bar on 8th November 1611. Clarendon states that he "led a free life on a restrained fortune," and that he "set up upon the stock of a good wit and natural parts without the superstructure of much knowledge in the profession by which he was to grow," and Finch himself, on the occasion of his instalment as Lord Chief Justice, publicly confessed that the first six years of his pupilage were mainly devoted to other pursuits than the study of the law. In 1614 he was returned to Parliament for Canterbury. In 1617 he was elected a bencher of his inn, where, in the autumn of the following year he discharged the duties of reader. Foss says, without giving his authority, that in 1617 he was elected Recorder of Canterbury. He was certainly Recorder of the City in March 1618-19, and was dismissed by the Corporation shortly afterwards. The cause of his removal does not appear. Finch himself, in a letter dated 4th January 1619, soliciting the interest of Lord Zouch, Warden of the Cinque Ports, with the privy council, from which he had obtained a mandamus against the Corporation for his reinstatement speaks vaguely of the "factious carriage" of one Sabin. The Corporation had refused to obey the order of the privy council, and it remained as yet unenforced. On 19th May 1620 the Corporation wrote to the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Zouch praying that they might not be compelled to re-elect Finch, as it would be "against their consciences and their charter, and greatly to the disquiet of the City." On 28th May, however, they changed their tone, humbly informing the council "that they were willing to re-elect Mr. Finch as their Recorder" and craving "pardon for discontenting their lordships." Finch was returned to parliament for Winchilsea in February 1623-4, but was unseated on petition on the ground that certain voters had been excluded by the Mayor. A new writ was issued on 19th March, and Finch was re-elected. He exchanged Winchilsea for Canterbury at the election of 1625. On 31st May the King, and on 13th June 1625, the King and Queen paid a visit to Canterbury, and were received with an address by Finch as Recorder. The addresses, notes of which are preserved, must have been remarkable only for the style of fulsome adulation in which they were conceived. In 1626 he was knighted and appointed King's Counsel, and Attorney-General to the Queen. On 17th March 1627-8 he was elected Speaker of the House of Commons, being still member for Canterbury. His speech to the throne, couched though it was in language of the most extravagant loyalty, nevertheless concluded with three petitions: (1) that the house might be assured of the immunity of its members from arrest, (2) that freedom of debate might be respected, (3) that access to the royal person might be granted on suitable occasions.



On 14th April 1628 he presented a petition against the practice of billeting soldiers on private citizens. On 5th May he conveyed to the King the answers of the Commons to various royal messages, in particular to the demand of the King "to know whether the Commons would rest content with his "royal word and promise" for the redress of their grievances. Finch expressed on behalf of the Commons at once their entire confidence in the royal word, and their settled conviction that "no less than a public remedy will raise the dejected hearts of the people at large." In the debate on the royal message of 5th June, enjoining the Commons not to meddle with affairs of State or asperse ministers, Sir John Eliot having risen ostensibly to rebut the implied charge of aspersing ministers, Finch, "apprehending Sir John intended to fall upon the duke" (Buckingham) said, with tears in his eyes: "there is a command laid upon me to interrupt any that should go about to lay aspersion on the ministers of State;" upon which Eliot sat down, the house, after some desultory conversation, resolved itself into a committee of public safety, and Finch repaired to the King, from whom next day he brought a conciliatory message. On this occasion he seems to have acted as a mediator between the King and the Commons. Sir Robert Philips, who replied to the royal message on behalf of the house, while expressing himself very cautiously on the general question, lauded Finch as one who had "not only at all times discharged the duty of a good speaker, but of a good man." In September and October 1628, Finch was associated with the Attorney-General, Sir Robert Heath, in investigating the circumstances attending the assassination of the Duke of Buckingham. On 25th February 1628-9 Finch delivered a message from the King commanding the adjournment of the house. Several members objected that adjournment was a matter for the house to determine, and Sir John Eliot proceeded to present a remonstrance on the subject of tonnage and poundage, which Finch refused to read. Eliot then read it himself. Finch, however, refused to put the question, and, rising to adjourn the debate, was forced back into the chair, and held there by Denzil Holles, Valentine, and others, Holles swearing "God's wounds he should sit still till it pleased them to rise." Finch burst into tears, exclaiming, "I will not say I will not but I dare not," reminding the house that he had been their "faithful servant" and protesting "he would sacrifice his life for the good of his country, but durst not sin against the express command of his sovereign." Meanwhile, with locked doors, the substance of Eliot's remonstrance was adopted by the house and declared carried. Shortly afterwards parliament was dissolved, not to meet again for eleven years. In 1631 Finch was much employed in Star-chamber and high commission cases. In the autumn of 1633, the Inns of Court having decided to provide a grand masque for the entertainment of the King and Queen, by way at once of testifying their loyalty and protesting against the austere views lately published by Prynne in his "Histriomastix," Finch was elected one of the committee of management. The performance which took place on Candlemas Day 1633-4 is described at some length by White-locke, and seems to have been a very splendid pageant. The masquers went in procession from Ely House, Holborn, by way of Chancery Lane and the Strand to Whitehall. The dancing took place in the palace, the Queen herself dancing with some of the

masquers. The revels were prolonged far into the night, and terminated with a stately banquet. Finch was subsequently deputed to convey the thanks of the members of the four Inns to the King and Queen for their gracious reception of the masquers. The entertainment was afterwards repeated by royal command in the Merchant Taylors' Hall. About the same time Finch was busily engaged in the proceedings taken against Prynne in the Star-chamber. His speech, in which he charges Prynne with veiling under the name of Herodias a libel on the Queen, is reported in "Documents relating to William Prynne." Attorney-General Noy dying in the following August was succeeded by Sir John Banks, and Sir Robert Heath having been removed from the Chief-Justiceship of the Court of Common pleas on 14th September, Finch was appointed to succeed him on 16th October, having taken the degree of Serjeant-at-Law on 9th October. Notes of his speeches on being sworn in as serjeant, taking leave of Gray's Inn on 12th October, and being sworn in as Chief Justice, are preserved. These changes inspired some legal wit with the following couplet :—

Noy's floods are gone, the Banks appear,
The Heath is cropt, the Finch sings there.

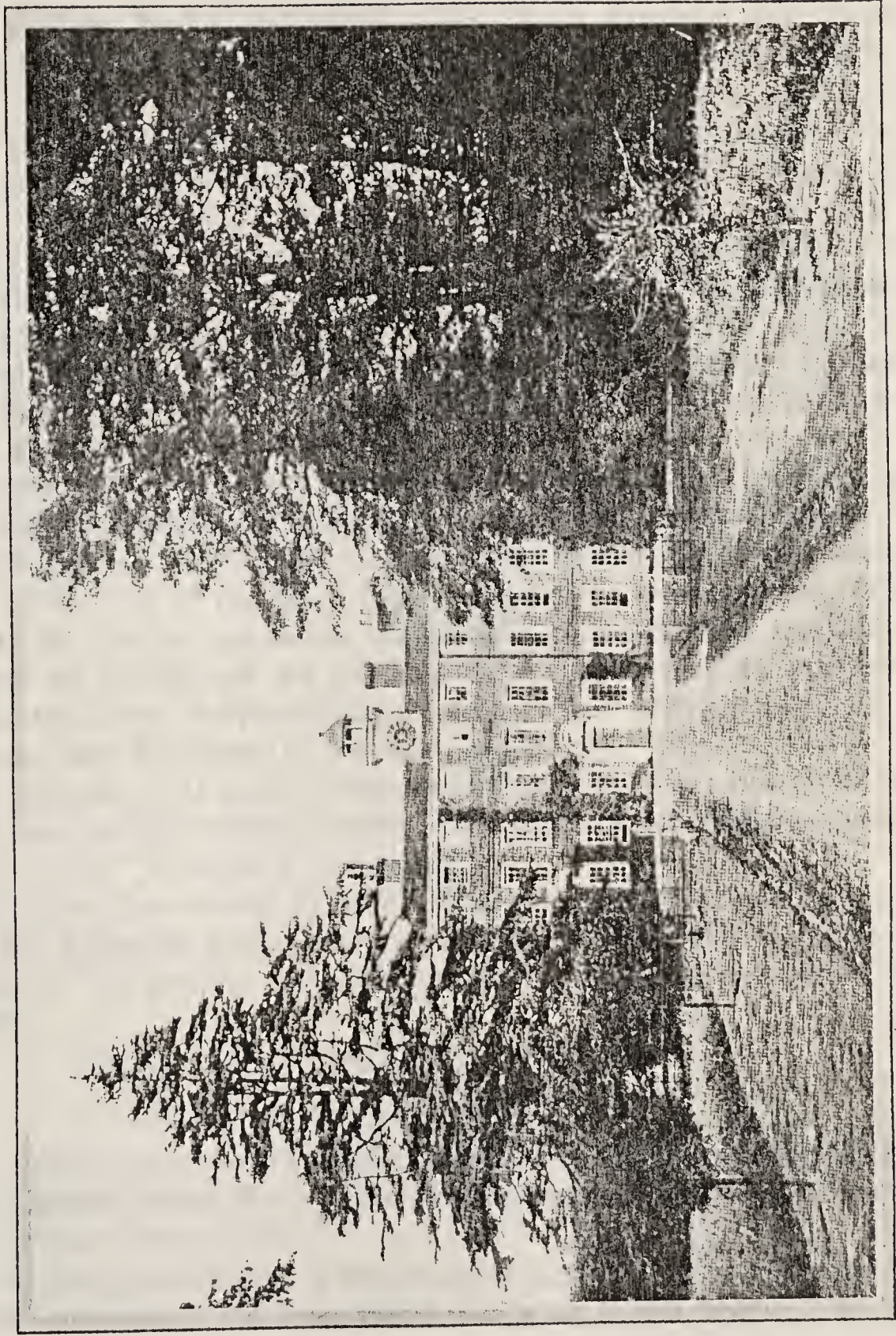
On the bench Finch distinguished himself by the height to which he carried the royal prerogative, and the severity of his sentences. Thus a certain James Maxwell and his wife Alice, having been found guilty in the Star-chamber on 17th April 1635 of libelling the King and the Lord-keeper, and Lord Cottington proposing a fine of £3000 for the offence against the King and the same sum to the Lord-keeper, the Lord Chief Baron moved to add in the case of the woman a whipping, in which he was supported by Finch. The motion, however, was lost. In another Star-chamber case on 27th January 1636-7 one Elmstone having been sentenced to imprisonment and also to stand in the pillory at Westminster, Finch moved to add that he lose his ears. The motion was lost. On Prynne's second trial in 1637, Finch surpassed himself in brutality. He drew the attention of the Court to the fact that some remnants of Prynne's ears still remained, and moved that they be cut close, and that he be stigmatised with the letters S.L. (seditious libeller) on his cheeks, which proposals were adopted into the sentence. In the case of John Langton in 1638, one of the subordinate officials of the exchequer charged with abuse of the royal prerogative, Finch doubled the fine of £100 proposed by Lord Cottington, and added the pillory, imprisonment, and disability to hold office, in which the rest of the court concurred ; Archbishop Laud, however, proposed that the fine be raised to £5000. Finch also added a whipping to the sentence of fine, pillory, and mutilation proposed by Lord Cottington for one Pickering, a Roman Catholic, found guilty in 1638 of libelling the King and Queen by calling them Romanists, and sacrilegiously converting part of a churchyard into a pigsty.

On 12th February 1636-7 the King laid before the judges a case for their opinion on the legality of ship-money. The opinion which they all subscribed, but for which according to Clarendon, Finch was mainly responsible, was to the effect that the King had an uncontrolled discretion in the matter. To this opinion Finch, and the majority of his colleagues, adhered on the occasion of the trial of Hampden in the

exchequer chamber. He delivered a long and somewhat rambling judgment, concluding with the statement that "upon common law and the fundamental policy of the kingdom, the King may charge his subjects for the defence of the kingdom when it is in danger" and "that the king is sole judge of the danger, and ought to direct the means of defence." Of this judgment Clarendon says that it made ship-money "more abhorred and formidable than all the commitments by the council table, and all the distresses taken by the sheriffs in England;" the major part of men looking upon these proceedings with a kind of applause to themselves, to see other men punished for not doing as they had done; which delight was quickly determined when they found their own interest by the unnecessary logic of that argument, no less concluded than Mr. Hampden's. In March 1638-9 Finch was sworn of the privy council and on 17th January 1639-40 he obtained through the influence of the Queen the place of Lord-keeper, then vacant by the death of Lord Coventry. His appointment gave far from universal satisfaction. Sir Richard Cave wrote to Sir Thomas Roe, under date 7th February 1639-40: "The Lord-keeper keeps such a clatter in his new place that they are more weary of him in the chancery than they were before in the common pleas." On 7th April 1640 he was created Baron Finch of Fordwich in Kent. The short parliament of 1640 was opened by the King on 13th April with a few words indicative of the gravity of the situation, the task of more fully setting forth the royal wishes and intentions being devolved upon the lord-keeper. After dwelling upon the magnanimity shown by the King in "sequestering the memory of all former discouragements," and once more summoning a parliament, Finch proceeded to expatiate upon the threatening aspect of Scottish affairs, and the consequent necessity of obtaining immediate supplies. On this theme he again enlarged on 20th April, but with no effect, the commons resolving that grievances must take precedence of supply. On 5th May parliament was dissolved. One of the first acts of the Long Parliament was the exhibition of articles of impeachment against Finch. The principal counts in the indictment were three: (1) his arbitrary conduct when Speaker on the occasion of Eliot's motion on tonnage and poundage; (2) malpractices on the bench in 1635 for the purpose of extending the royal forest in Essex beyond its legal boundaries; (3) his conduct in Hampden's case. Finch appeared at the bar of the House of Commons during the preliminary stage and made an elaborate speech in his own defence, but took refuge in Holland before the form of the articles was finally determined, arriving at the Hague on 31st December 1640. According to Clarendon, the House was "wonderfully indisposed to hear anything against him," though Falkland denounced him as the "chief transgressor" in the matter of ship-money. His estates in Kent and Middlesex were sequestered in 1644, being estimated as of the annual value of £338; but his wife, Lady Mabel, was permitted to occupy them at the annual rent of £100 so long as they should continue in sequestration. They seem to have been subsequently redeemed for £7000, though Finch's name does not appear in Dring's "Catalogue." During his exile Finch seems to have resided principally at the Hague. Here in 1641 Evelyn met him, and lodged for a time in the same house with him, the house, oddly enough, of a Brownist, where, says Evelyn, "we had an extraordinary good table."

A letter to Sir Christopher Hatton, dated 3rd January, 1640-1, announcing his arrival at the Hague was printed in 1641. Another to Dr. Cosin, Dean of Peterborough, written in a very inflated style, but not without touches of humour, is undated, but must have been written in 1641 or 1642, as it contains a reference to the "danger that hangs over the head of 'Cosin,' " viz, the prosecution in the High Commission Court for innovating in religion, which terminated 22nd January 1642 in sequestration.

On 14th July 1647 Finch petitioned the House of Lords for leave to return home to die in his native country. The petition was ordered to be considered, and was entered in the journal of the house, but no leave appears to have been granted. In October 1660, Finch was one of the commissioners for the trial of the regicides, but took little part in the proceedings. He died on the 27th of the following month, and was buried in St. Martin's Church, near Canterbury. As he left no male issue the peerage became extinct. Finch married first, Eleanor, daughter of George Wyat ; and secondly, Mabel, daughter of the Rev. Charles Fotherby, Dean of Canterbury. Smith calls him a "proud and impious man, but loyal to his prince." His character has been painted in black colours by Campbell, but though a bigoted supporter of despotic power, there is no reason to suppose that he was other than a conscientious man. Finch was never open to pecuniary corruption. He was one of the first donors to Gray's Inn library.



RED HEATH, CO., HERTS.

CHAPTER 12
HISTORICAL MANSIONS AND MANORS
(PART 2)

RED HEATH, Co HERTS

THIS charming old residence came into the Finch family subsequent to the marriage of Charles Finch of Furnivals Inn, London, and Watford, County Herts, gentleman, with Mary, daughter and heiress of Henry Baldwin of Red Heath, Esquire. The marriage took place in the year 1663. At that time Red Heath was a small but typical Tudor farmhouse, but shortly afterwards the famous architect, Sir Christopher Wren, was employed and he transformed it into the much more imposing, but still very homelike, residence which continued to be the home of Finch of Red Heath for many generations. It is easy to recognise the master hand of Wren in the stately front with its triple row of windows which dominates the long avenue by which the house is approached.

The farmhouse which formed the basis of the present residence was built of red brick, with rough half-timber work, and this can still be seen on the right-hand side of the main entrance.

The illustration which is from a photograph taken only a few years ago, shows also the 19th century addition carried out fairly well in keeping with the Wren building. This addition was carried out on the instructions of John Finch, the great-great grandson of the first of the Finch family to own the property and, although in many respects the interior contained illustrations of the hideous interior work of the early Victorian period, and the windows of the newly-erected portion contained plate-glass and other Victorian disfigurements, these were all remedied when the property came into the hands of the late Lord Ebury.

When the addition to the old farmhouse was made from the designs of Wren, the connection was brought about by means of a stairway ascending between the walls, forming a "well" in which it is enclosed.

Red Heath stands surrounded by beautiful gardens, and one of the most charming features is the group of ancient cherry trees over which climbing roses have spread their shoots. The stabling and outhouses surround what was the old courtyard of the farm.

PACKINGTON HALL, Co. WARWICK.
(The Seat of the Earls of Aylesford)

This seat, which is situated five miles from Coventry, was erected about 230 years ago by Sir Clement Fisher, Bart, whose ancestors had been settled in Packington Magna since the time of Henry VIII.

It is written that "he adorned it with delightful gardens, statues, canals, vistas and other suitable ornaments, and also rebuilt the house in the middle of the Great Pool."

As will be seen by reference to the Aylesford pedigree, Heneage, Earl of Aylesford, married his only daughter and heiress, and thus, the Mansion and estate passed into the Finch family.

The Parish Church stands within the Park. It was built by the Earl of Aylesford in 1790 from a design of Bonomi.

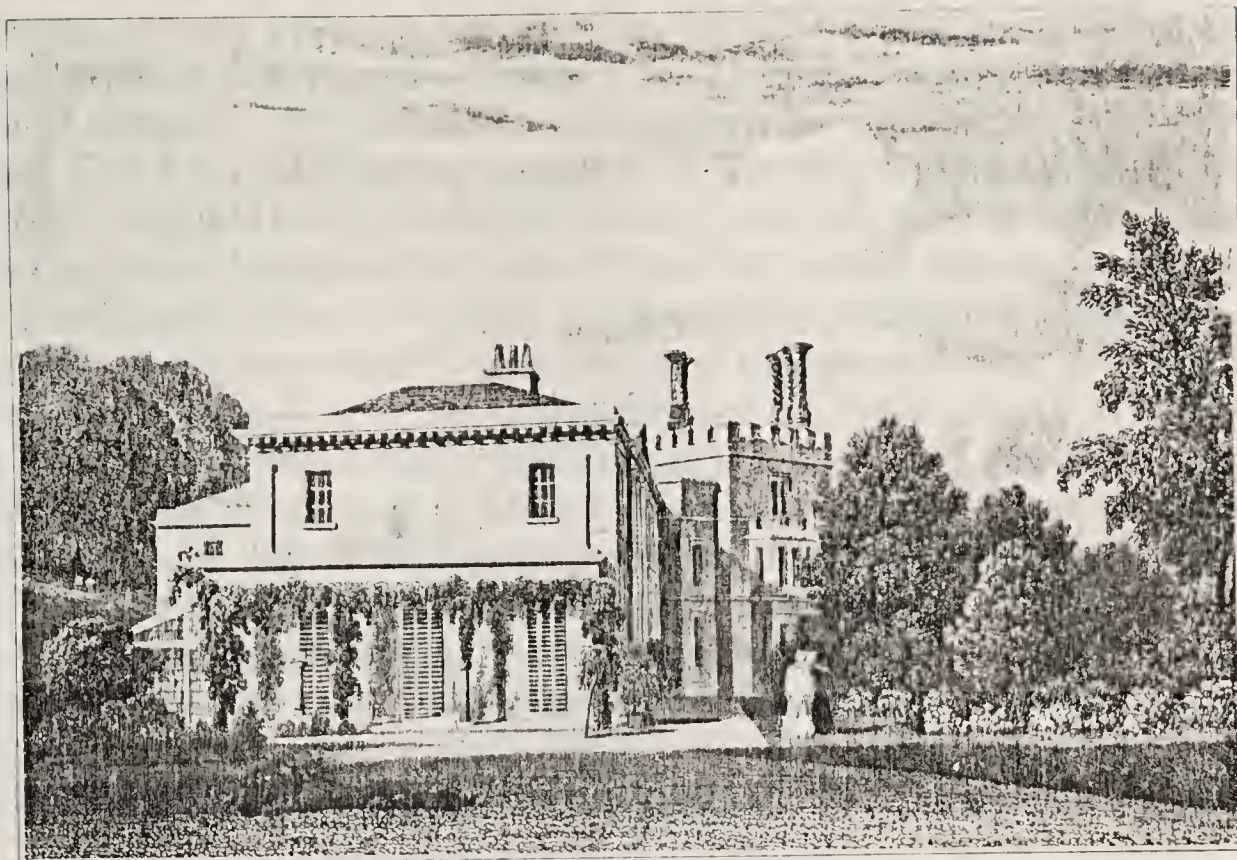
The Forest Hall, a small but pleasant building, is a short distance from Packington. It was erected for the accommodation of "the Woodmen of Arden" which is a Society of Archers who held periodical competitions in the neighbourhood.

ALBURY PARK, SURREY

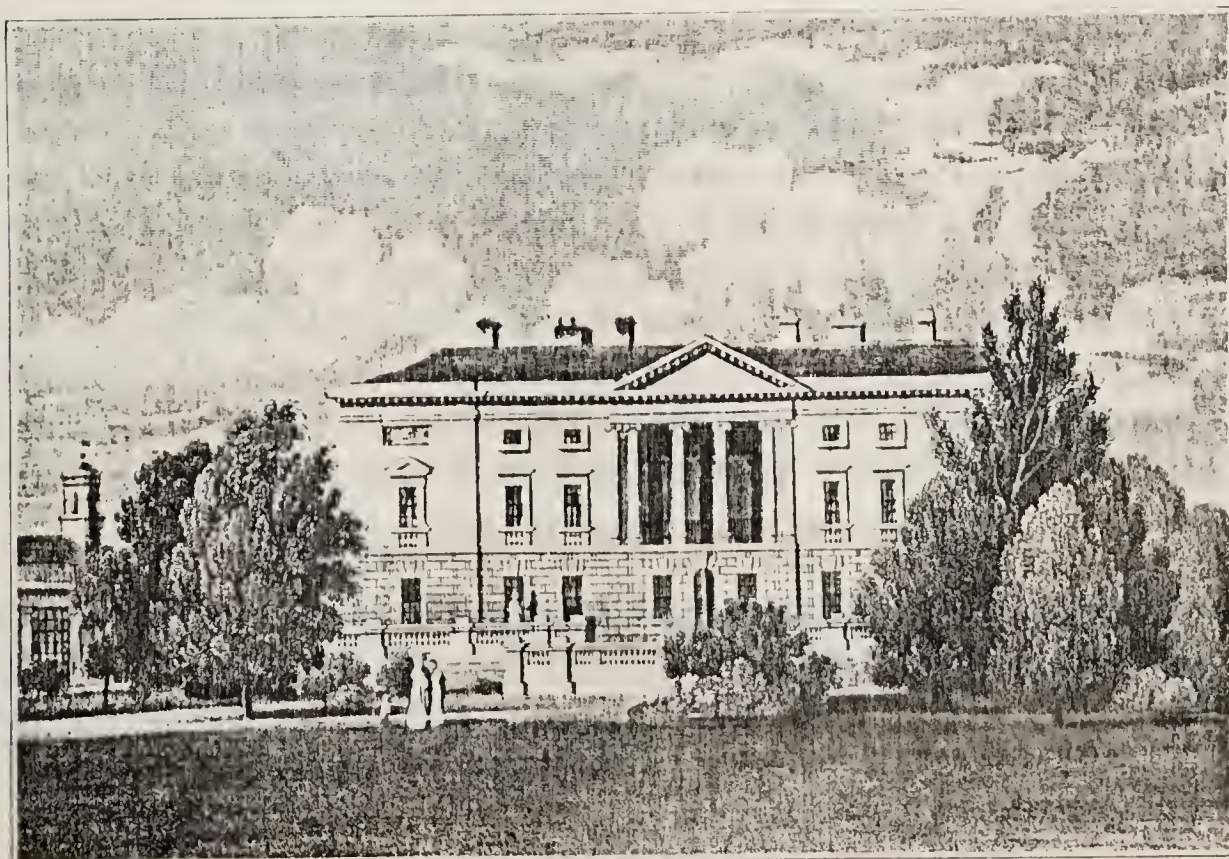
Albury Park is celebrated as having been the residence of Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey in the reign of Charles I. It lies about six miles S.E. from Guildford on the road to Dorking, in a rich valley and very beautifully wooded. The grounds were originally laid out by Evelyn. The Tillingbourne winds at the foot of the lawn in front of the house, and noble oaks, beeches and spanish chestnuts adorn the Park. Near the House is a flower garden, and at some distance, a broad Terrace of great length, in the centre of which is a semi-circular bason of clear water, beneath which is a chamber called a Roman bath with niches in the walls for the reception of statues.

Henry Howard, who succeeded to his titles and this estate, sold it to Heneage Finch, second son of the first Earl of Nottingham. This gentleman was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, was bred to the Bar, and called "silver-tongue." In 1678 he was appointed Solicitor-General to Charles II, and was removed by James II in April 1686. He took a very distinguished part on behalf of the Seven Bishops who were tried in Trinity Term 1688 for refusing to authorise the reading of King James' Declaration for abrogating the test and penal laws. He strenuously argued against their commitment, and the power of the King to dispense with the laws. In the warmth of his zeal he put his clients into great danger of having a verdict given against them. The Counsel for the Crown had not produced sufficient proof of the Bishops having given their Petition into the hands of the King ; and the Chief Justice, Sir Robert Wright, whatever his wish might be, had begun to sum up the evidence, and was prepared to tell the Jury that there was not evidence to that point when Mr. Finch interrupted him. This interruption produced some conversation, during which the Counsel for the Crown had an intimation that Lord Sunderland could prove the delivery and insisted on calling him. He was gone out of Court but was sent for, and the Court waited his coming. When he came he went so much further than the other witnesses had done that the Chief Justice, in his charge to the Jury, told them there was now that evidence which there had not been before, and the Jury were long deliberating before they brought in their verdict of Not Guilty.

During the course of the trial, the Chief Justice, who treated some of the Counsel (even on the side of the Crown) very roughly, took many occasions to compliment Mr. Finch.



ALBURY PARK, SURREY.



PACKINGTON HALL, WARWICKSHIRE

A handsome piece of plate given him on this occasion was lost when Albury House was burnt in 17...

He died in July 1719 at Aylesford, an estate which he got by marrying the daughter, and one of the co-heirs, of Sir John Banks of that place.

Heneage, his son and heir, was appointed Master of the Jewel Office in 1711, and was continued in that place by George I, but resigned it when his father resigned the Duchy of Lancaster. He was chosen Member for Surrey in his father's lifetime in the 9th and 12th Anne, and on the accession of George I. He made Albury his constant residence, and was a very useful magistrate ; but continued in steady opposition to the Court after his father and he retired from their places. He was fond of country sports, and took great pains to multiply the breed of pheasants, of which there were not many in this neighbourhood before his time, though now they are very abundant. He married the daughter of Sir Clement Fisher, of Packington in Warwickshire, and from her derived that considerable estate. His eldest son resided there in his father's lifetime, and never lived at Albury. The eldest son of this last resided also at Packington, and sold Albury to his brother, William Clement Finch, a Captain in the Navy who had captured a rich Spanish ship. He laid out a good deal of money in repairing and fitting up the House, bought some lands in addition to the estate, had the rank of Admiral, and died in 1794, leaving four children by his wife, the daughter of Mr. Brouncker of the West Indies. Under his Will the estate was sold in 1800 to Samuel Thornton Esquire, Governor of the Bank, and M.P. for Hull.

EASTWELL PARK, KENT

The illustration of this Mansion is taken from a water colour drawing preserved in the Manuscript Room at the British Museum, and was, apparently, made for the purpose of illustrating Hasted's History of Kent.

The Manor of Eastwell was owned in the reign of King Henry VIII by Sir Christopher Hales, Kt, Attorney-General. He died in the 33rd year of that King's reign, leaving three daughters, and they or their husband's, sold the Manor and house which was then existing to Sir Thomas Moyle, who rebuilt the Mansion. The estate passed with his daughter and heiress, Catherine Moyle, into the Finch family.

In 1849 this was a residence of the Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, who restored Eastwell Church in 1844. In that Church is a tomb in memory of Richard Plantagenet, natural son of King Richard III who, having fled here after the Battle of Bosworth, was subsequently protected by Sir Thomas Moyle, Lord of the Manor, at a small house erected by his permission, where he died in 1550 at the age of 81.

Eastwell Park is about four miles due North of Ashford.

THE MANOR HOUSE, PEMBRIDGE

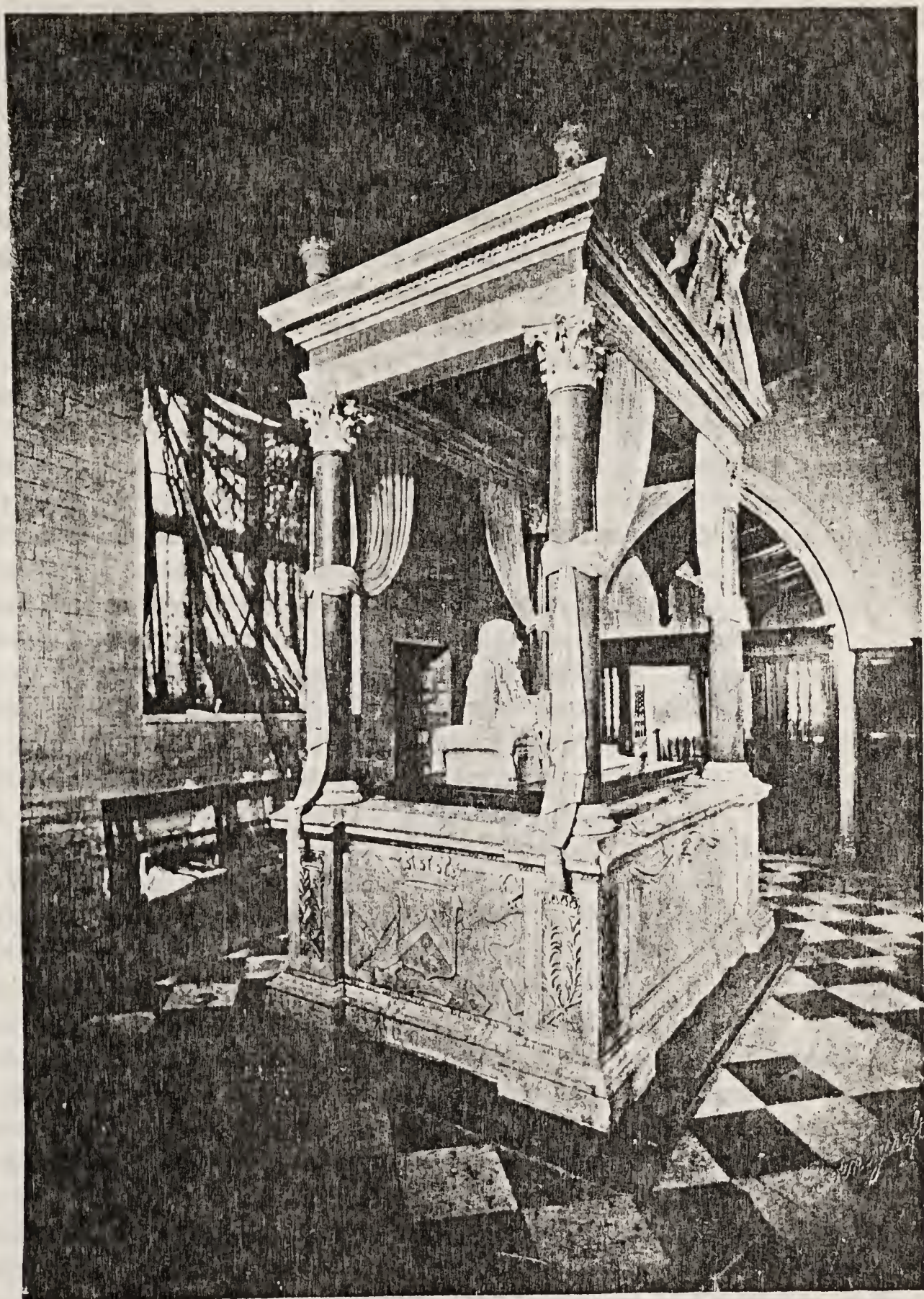
Early in the reign of King James I, this Herefordshire Manor was in the possession of Robert, Earl of Essex, and, descending to the Duchess of Somerset, was bequeathed by her to Thomas Thynne of Longbot, the husband of her grand-daughter, the Lady Frances Finch.

CHAPTER 13

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, 1st EARL OF NOTTINGHAM

(LORD CHANCELLOR)

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, first Earl of Nottingham, successively Solicitor-General, Lord-keeper, and Lord Chancellor, was born 23rd December 1621, and was the eldest son of Sir Heneage Finch, Knight, Recorder of London, and Speaker in Charles I's first parliament, and of Frances, daughter of Sir Edmund Bell, of Beaupré Hall in Norfolk. He was educated at Westminster School, whence he went to Christ Church, entering in the Lent term of 1635. He then joined the Inner Temple where he soon became a distinguished student, with special proficiency in municipal law. He took no part in the troubles of the Civil War, and during the usurpation conducted an extensive private practice. By the time of the Restoration he was well-known, and was returned for the Convention Parliament both for Canterbury and St. Michael's in Cornwall, electing to sit for Canterbury. In honour of the occasion, he was entertained by the City at a banquet. On 6th June 1660 he was made Solicitor-General, and on the next day was created a baronet of Ravenstone in Buckinghamshire. He at once became the official representative of the Court and of the Church in the House of Commons. In the great debate of 9th July 1660 on the future form of the Church, Finch, in an uncompromising speech treated the matter as not open to argument, since there was "no law for altering government by bishops"; he jeered at "tender consciences," and hoped the House would not "cant after Cromwell." On 30th July he urged the expulsion from their livings of all ministers who had been presented without the consent of the patrons, and opposed any abatement in the articles or oaths. In the matter of the Indemnity Bill, he was deputed by the Commons to manage the conference between the two houses on 16th August, and strongly supported the exclusion from pardon of the late King's judges, a compromise which he felt to be necessary to secure the passing of the measure so warmly desired by the King and Clarendon. On 12th September he spoke against the motion that the King should be desired to marry a protestant, and on 21st November proposed the important constitutional change whereby the courts of wards & purveyance were abolished, and the revenue hitherto raised by them was for the future levied on the excise. It is significant of the real objects of the court that as Law Officer of the Crown he opposed (28th November) the Bill brought in by Sir Matthew Hale for giving effect to the King's declaration regarding ecclesiastical affairs by embodying it in the act. And in the debate regarding the ill-conduct of the troops, on 14th December, he spoke against the proposal to accompany the bill of supply with a complaint of grievances. He was one of the prosecuting counsel in the trial of the Regicides in October 1660, where he is described in one account as effectually answering Cooke, the framer of the impeachment of Charles I, though, by the report



SIR HENEAGE FINCH, 1st. EARL OF NOTTINGHAM.
(Monument in Ravenstone Church)

in the State trials, he appears only to have formally opened the case against the prisoner.

In April 1661 Finch was elected to Charles's second parliament, both for the University of Oxford and for Beaumaris in Anglesey, electing to sit for Oxford. He was carried by the influence of Clarendon, whose son, Laurence Hyde, stood with him, of the Bishop of Oxford, and of the heads of houses, against strong opposition aroused apparently by the conduct of their former representative, Selden. He appears to have disappointed his constituents by not assisting to get rid of the hearth-tax. In this year also he was made Treasurer and Autumn reader of the Inner Temple. He chose as the subject of his lectures, which excited much attention, lasting from 4th to 17th August, the Statute of the 39th of Elizabeth, concerning the recovery of debts of the Crown, which had never previously been discussed. It is recorded in Pepys' Diary that the King, and all the great officers of State attended a banquet in his honour in the Inner Temple. It is noticeable that in one matter upon which Charles seemed really bent, toleration of dissent, he certainly opposed the court. In February 1663 he was made chairman of the committee of the Commons which drew up in the most uncompromising terms an address to the King praying for the withdrawal of his declaration of indulgence, and in March, was the representative of the House in the conference with the Lords about a bill against the priests and jesuits. In October 1664 he was leading counsel for the Canary merchants in their endeavour to acquire a new Charter. When the House met at Oxford in 1665, he again vehemently espoused the intolerant policy of the Anglican Church by pressing forward the Five Mile Act ; and at the prorogation he, with Hyde, Colonel Strangways, and Sir John Birkenhead, received the honorary degree of D.C.L. (7th November), having, with the two latter by order of the Commons, communicated to the University on 31st October 1665 the thanks of the House for its "loyalty in the late rebellion, especially in refusing to submit to the visitation of the usurped powers, and to take the solemn league and covenant." In the debate on the Five Mile Act, when Vaughan wished to add the word "legally" to "commissioned by him," Finch pointed out that the addition was unnecessary, and his argument was adopted by Anglesey in the Lords, where Southampton moved the same addition. In the session of 1666 he spoke against the Irish Cattle Bill, and in October 1667 on Clarendon's impeachment. The account is obscure, but apparently he did what he could to check the violence of the Commons, insisting on sworn evidence, though willing that it should be kept secret. On 18th February 1668, he did the Court good service by shelving the Bill for holding frequent parliaments on the ground of informal introduction ; and in the same month, in the celebrated Skinner controversy, he pleaded against Skinner before the Lords on behalf of the East India Company. In December 1668, on the motion for impeaching the Earl of Orrery, he warned the House against acting upon "out-of-door accusation." On 10th May 1670 he became Attorney-General, and soon afterwards Councillor to Queen Catherine. He was Chamberlain of Chester from 1673 to 1676. He exercised a moderating influence in the debates on the Bill for "preventing malicious maiming," which followed the outrage on Sir John

Coventry, and he successfully opposed the proposal for a double assessment of defaulting members of the House by the argument that by taking it to the Subsidy Bill, a matter affecting the Commons only would come before the Lords. In April 1671 he conducted with great skill the conferences between the Lords and Commons on the subject of the interference of the former in money bills, from which dates practically the cessation of the practice. His ability in the conduct of this matter was recognised by the formal thanks of the House. On 6th February 1673, he argued in favour of the Chancellor's Writs, the writs issued for parliamentary elections during the recess by Shaftesbury, on the ground that parliamentary privilege was then dormant, but could not make head against the determination of the House to suffer no court interference. In the great debate of 10th February on the King's declaration of indulgence, while repudiating the doctrine advanced by Shaftesbury of a distinction between the exercise of the royal power in ecclesiastical and temporal affairs, he defended the legality and expediency of the declaration. "A mathematical security," he said, "we cannot have; a moral one we have from the King." Seeing the temper of the House, however, he concluded by the illogical motion that the King be petitioned 'that it might be so no more.' In March 1673 he passionately opposed the Naturalisation of Foreigners Bill, and in October did his best in vain to combat the determination of the Commons to refuse further supplies for the Dutch War. On the dismissal of Shaftesbury, Finch became Lord-keeper of the Seals, 9th November 1673, and as such was made on 4th January 1674 the unconscious mouthpiece of the first direct lie which Charles had ventured openly to tell his parliament. On 10th January he was raised to the Peerage as Baron Finch of Daventry from the Manor in Northamptonshire, of which he was the owner. On 19th December he surrendered the seals, to receive them again immediately with the higher title of Lord Chancellor, the office carrying with it apparently a salary of £4000 a year. In the same year he was made Lord-lieutenant of Somersetshire. In 1675 he was, according to Burnet, one of the chief arguers for the non-resisting test. As Lord Chancellor he had, at the beginning of each session, to supply an elaboration of the King's speech, and this he did, "spoiling what the King had said so well by overstraining to do it better." In this year he conducted the case of the Lords in the great Fagg controversy. In 1677 he presided as Lord High Steward of England on the trial of the Earl of Pembroke for manslaughter. A signal instance of the adroitness, joined, it should be said, with unimpeached probity, by which, almost alone among his contemporaries, he managed to secure at once permanence in office and freedom from parliamentary attack occurred in the matter of Danby's impeachment. Charles, to the great anger of the Commons, had given Danby a pardon in bar of the impeachment. The House appointed a committee, who demanded from Finch an explanation of the fact that the pardon bore the great seal. Finch's statement was that he neither advised, drew, nor altered it; that the King commanded him to bring the seal from Whitehall, and being there he laid it upon the table; thereupon His Majesty commanded the seal to be taken out of the bag, which it was not in his power to hinder; and the King wrote his name on the top of the parchment and then directed to have it sealed, whereupon

the person who usually carried the purse affixed the seal to it. He added that at the time he did not regard himself as having the custody of the seal. When the case of Danby was before the Lords he argued for the right of Bishops to vote in trials for treason, and carried his views as to preliminaries, though not as to final judgment. There is among Sir Charles Bunbury's manuscripts at Bury, Suffolk, a treatise on the King's power of granting pardons, ascribed with most probability to Finch. Some autograph notes, certainly his, on the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679, belong to Alfred Morrison Esquire. He conducted the examination before the Privy Council of the "party" Lords who came from Scotland in 1678 to complain of Lauderdale, and, though evidently holding a brief for the Duke, was unable to shake their position. That Finch was not above using the ordinary jargon of court flattery appears in his exclamation, when Charles tried the experiment of a newly modelled Privy Council, "It looked like a thing from heaven fallen into his master's breast." During the Popish terror, Finch appears to have given no offence to either side. He presided, however, as Lord High Steward at the trial of Lord Stafford, and his conduct formed a pleasing contrast to that which so often disgraced the courts in the latter years of Charles's reign. He showed personal courtesy to the prisoner, provided him with all proper means of defence, and pronounced sentence in a speech greatly admired at the time, "one of the best he had ever made." He, however, gave his own vote against Stafford, and complied so far with the prevailing fashion as to assume the whole truth of the "plot," and even to father the absurd cry that London had been burned by the Papists. Burnet accounts for his patronage of the plot as the result of fear of parliamentary attack in consequence of his conduct in the matter of Danby's pardon. Only one slip does Finch appear to have made in his discreet avoidance of giving offence. In 1679 on receiving Gregory, the new Speaker of the House, he allowed himself to declare that the King "always supports the creatures of his power." Shaftesbury at once fastened on the expression; Finch was compelled to apologise, and a resolution was carried not to enter it upon the minutes of the House. In the great question of the succession, Finch was, of course, against exclusion. But by Charles's command, he proposed the middle and entirely impracticable scheme of "limitations." On 12th May 1681 he was created Earl of Nottingham, and died 18th December 1682, in the sixty-first year of his age, after a life spent in unremitting official and professional toil. He was buried in Ravenstone Church, near Newport Pagnell in Buckinghamshire, of which place he was owner and benefactor. He married Elizabeth Harvey, daughter of Daniel Harvey, Merchant of London, by whom he had a numerous family. The eldest son, Daniel, became second Earl. Heneage, the second son, was Solicitor-General, and was created Earl of Aylesford. The fifth son, Edward, was a musical composer. Nottingham's favourite residence Kensington House, he bought of his younger brother, John. His son, Daniel, sold it to William III.

The fact that throughout an unceasing official career of more than twenty years, in a time of passion and intrigue, Finch was never once the subject of parliamentary attack, nor even lost the royal confidence, is a testimony both to his probity and discretion. His success in the early part of the reign arose from the fact that he

was in the first place a constitutional lawyer of the highest repute, "well versed in the laws." Dryden bears the same testimony in "Absalom and Achitophel," where he is described as Amri. These qualifications made him a man of extreme usefulness at a time when the constitution had to be restored after many years of dislocation. Until he finally left the House, scarcely a committee of importance was formed on which he was not placed, usually as chairman. He was appointed to draw up the letter of congratulation from the Commons to Charles on his arrival in England ; and he had the management of almost all the important controversies which were so frequently held with the Lords. His forensic eloquence is testified to on all hands ; though Burnet says he was too eloquent on the bench, in the Lords, and in the Commons, and calls his speaking laboured and affected. Roger North, in his autobiography confirms this view, saying that his love of "a handsome turn of expression gave him a character of a trifler which he did not so much deserve." In the high-flown language of the time, he was named the English Roscius and the English Cicero.

Burnet states to his credit that, though he used all the vehemence of a special pleader to justify the court before the Lords, yet, as a judge, Finch carried on the high tradition of his predecessor, Shaftesbury. In his own court he could resist the strongest applications even from the King himself, though he did it nowhere else. The same historian calls him "ill-bred," and both vain and haughty ; he had no knowledge of foreign affairs, and yet he loved to talk of them perpetually. Burnet's last words about him are, however, a recognition of the purity and fitness of his presentations of clergymen to livings in the Chancellor's gift.



SIR HENEAGE FINCH, 1st. EARL OF NOTTINGHAM.
(Monument in Ravenstone Church)

CHAPTER 14

THE ACCUSATION AND IMPEACHMENT OF JOHN, LORD FINCH, BARON OF FORDWICH, LORD KEEPER OF THE GREAT SEAL OF ENGLAND, BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

Printed Anno Domini 1640

IMPRIMIS—

That the said John, Lord Finch, Baron of Fordwich, Lord Keeper, &c, hath traitorously and wickedly endeavoured to subvert the fundamental laws and established government of the Realm of England, and, instead thereof, to introduce an arbitrary tyrannical government against law which he hath declared by traitorous and wicked words, counsels, judgments, practices and actions.

II. That in pursuance of those his traitorous and wicked purposes, he did, in the third and fourth years of his Majesty's reign, or one of them, being then Speaker of the Commons' House of Parliament, contrary to the commands of the House then assembled and sitting, deny and hinder the reading of some things, which the said House of Commons desired to be read for the safety of the King and Kingdom, and preservation of the religion of his realm ; and did forbid all the members of the House to speak ; and said that if any did offer to speak, he would rise and go away ; and said, nothing should be then done in the House, and did offer to rise and go away ; and did thereby, and otherwise, as much in him lay, endeavour to subvert the ancient and undoubted rights and course of Parliaments.

III. That he, being of his Majesty's council, at the justice-seat held for the County of Essex, in the month of October in the tenth year of his now Majesty's reign, at Strafford-Longton in the same County, being then of his Majesty's council, in that service did practise, by unlawful means, to enlarge the forest of that County many miles beyond the known bounds thereof, as they had been enjoyed near three-hundred years, contrary to the Law and to the Charter of the Liberties of the Forest and other Charters, and divers Acts of Parliament ; and, for effecting the same, did unlawfully cause and procure undue returns to be made of jurors, and great numbers of other persons who were unsworn, to be joined to them of the jury ; and threatened and awed the said jurors to give a verdict for the King ; and by unlawful means did surprize the County that they might not make defence ; and did use several menacing wicked speeches and actions to the jury, and others, for obtaining his unjust purpose aforesaid ; and after a verdict obtained for the King in the month of April following (at which time the said justice-seat was called by adjournment) the said John, Lord Finch, then Lord-Chief justice of His Majesty's Court of Common Pleas, was one of the Judges assistant for them, and continued by further unlawful and unjust practices, to maintain and confirm the said verdict ; and did then and there, being assistant to the justice in eyre, advise the refusal of the traverse offered by the County, and all their evidences, but only what they should verbally deliver, which was refused accordingly.

IV. That he, about the month of November, 1635, being then Lord Chief-Justice of the Court of Common-pleas, and having taken an oath for the due administration of justice to his Majesty's liege people, according to the laws and statutes of the realm, contrived an opinion *in hac verbor* "When the good and safety &c." and did subscribe his name to that opinion ; and, by persuasion, threats, and false suggestions, did solicit and procure Sir John Bramston, then and now Lord-Chief-Justice of England ; Sir Humfrey Davenport, Knight, Lord-Chief-Baron of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, Sir Richard Hutton, Knight, late one of the justices of his Majesty's Court of Common-pleas ; Sir John Denham, Knight, late one of the Barons of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer ; Sir William Jones, Knight, late one of the justices of the said court of King's Bench ; Sir George Crooke, then and now, one of the judges of the said court of King's Bench, and Sir Thomas Trevor, Knight, then and now, one of the Barons of the Exchequer ; Sir George Vernon, knight, late one of the justices of the said Court of Common-pleas ; Sir Robert Barkley, knight, then and now one of the justices of the said Court of King's Bench ; Sir Francis Crawley, Knight, then and now one of the justices of the said Court of Common-pleas ; Sir Richard Weston, Knight, then and now, one of the Barons of the said Court of Exchequer, some or one of them, to subscribe with their names the said opinion presently, and enjoined them severally, some or one of them, secrecy upon their allegiance.

V. That he the day of then being Lord-Chief-Justice of the said Court of Common-pleas, subscribed an extra-judicial opinion in answer to questions in a letter from His Majesty *in haec verba*. And that he contrived the said questions, and procured the said letter from His Majesty ; and whereas the said Justice Hutton and Justice Crooke declared to him their opinion to the contrary, yet he required and pressed them to subscribe, upon his promise that he would let His Majesty know the truth of their opinions, notwithstanding such subscriptions, which, nevertheless, he did not make known to His Majesty, but delivered the same to His Majesty as the opinion of all the Judges.

VI. That he, being Lord-Chief-Justice of the said Court of Common-pleas, delivered his opinion in the Exchequer Chamber against Master Hampden, in the case of ship-money ; that he, the said Master Hampden, upon the matter and substance of the case, was chargeable with the money then in question ; a copy of which proceeding the Commons will deliver to your Lordships ; and did solicit and threaten the said Judges, some or one of them, to deliver their opinions in like manner against Master Hampden, and after the said Baron Denham had delivered his opinion for Master Hampden, the said Lord Finch repaired purposely to the said Baron Denham's chamber, in Serjeants Inn in Fleet Street ; and after the said Master Baron Denham had declared and expressed his opinion, urged him to retract the said opinion ; which, he refusing, was threatened by the said Lord Finch, because he refused.

VII. That he, being the Lord-Chief-Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, declared and published in the Exchequer Chamber, and Western Circuit where he went Judge, that the King's right to ship-money, as aforesaid, was so inherent a right to the Crown, as an Act of Parliament could not take away ; and with divers malicious

speeches inveighed against and threatened all such as refused to pay ship-money, all which opinions contained in the fourth, fifth, and sixth articles, are against the law of the realm, the subject's right of property, and contrary to former resolutions in Parliament, and to the petition of right ; which said resolutions and petition of right were well known to him, and resolved and enacted in Parliament, when he was Speaker of the Commons, House of Parliament.

VIII. That he being Lord-Chief-Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, did take the general practice of that Court in his private chamber ; and that he sent warrants into all or many Shires of England to several men, as to Francis Giles of the County of Devon, Robert Benson of the County of York, Attorneys of that Court, and to divers others, to release all persons arrested on any outlawry about forty shillings fees ; whereas, none by law so arrested can be bailed or released, without a supersedas under seal, or reversal.

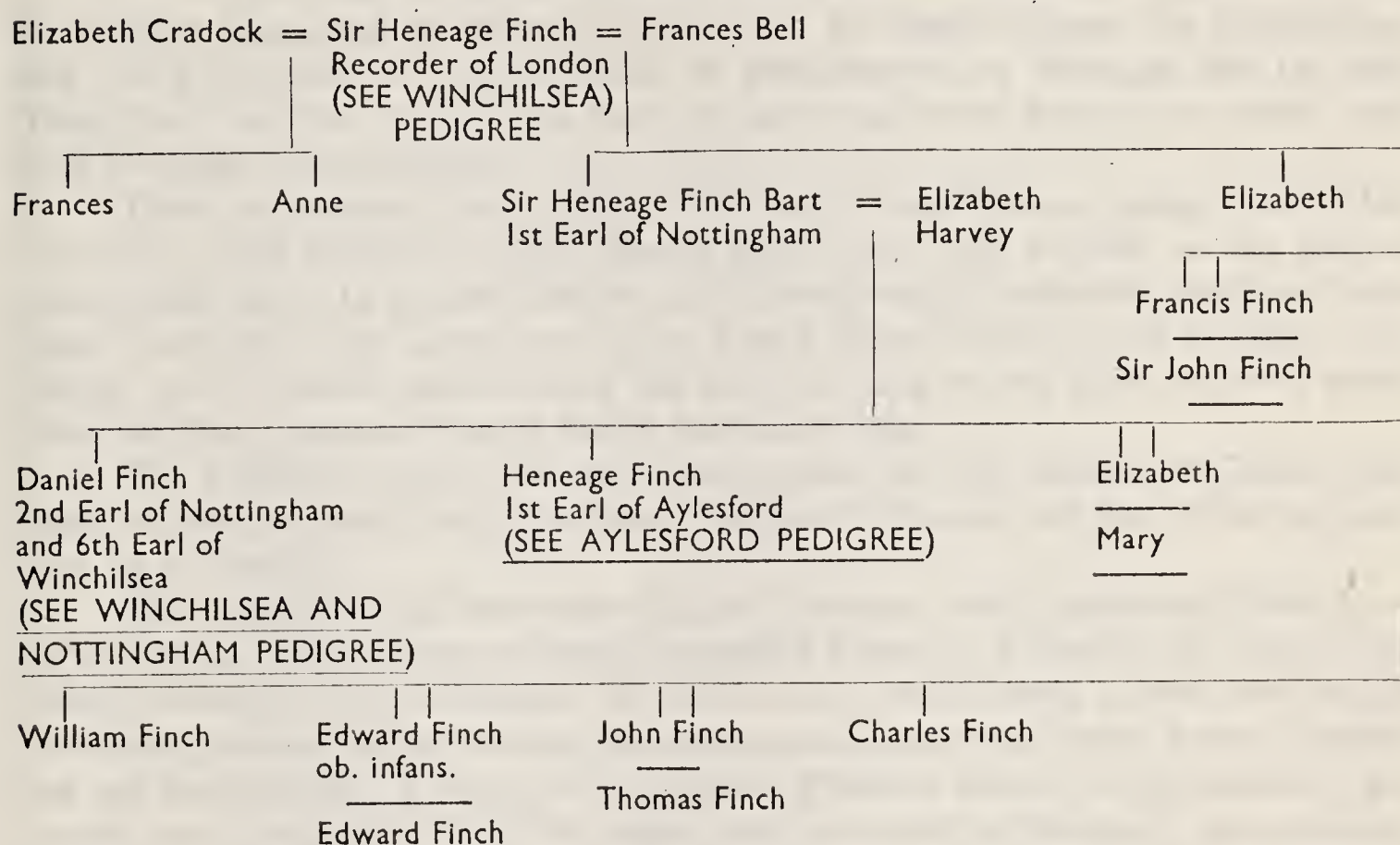
IX. That he, being Lord-Chief-Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, upon a pretended suit begun in Michaelmas term in the eleventh year of His Majesty's reign (although there was no plaint or declaration against him) did notoriously and contrary to all law and justice, by threats, menace, and imprisonment, compel Thomas Laurence, an executor, to pay nineteen pounds twelve shillings ; and likewise caused Richard Barnard, being only overseer of the last Will of that Testator, to be arrested for the payment of the said money, contrary to the advice of the rest of the Judges of that Court, and against the known and ordinary course of justice, and his said oath and knowledge, and denied His Majesty's subjects the common and ordinary justice of this realm, as to Master Limericke, and others, and, for his private benefit, endamaged and ruined the estates of very many of His Majesty's subjects, contrary to his oath and knowledge.

X. That he, being Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, and sworn one of his Majesty's Privy Council, did, by false and malicious slander, labour to incense His Majesty against Parliament, and did frame and advise the publishing the declarations, after the dissolution of the last Parliament.

All of which treasons and misdemeanours above mentioned, were done and committed by the said John Lord Finch Baron Finch of Fordwich, Lord Keeper of the Great-Seal of England, and thereby he the said Lord Finch hath traitorously, and contrary to his allegiance, laboured to lay imputations and scandals upon His Majesty's government and to alienate the hearts of His Majesty's liege-people from His Majesty, and to set a division between them, and to ruin and destroy His Majesty's realm of England ; for which they do impeach him the said Lord Finch, Baron of Fordwich, Lord-Keeper of the Great-Seal of England, of high-treason, against our Sovereign Lord the King, His Crown and dignity, of the misdemeanours above mentioned and the said Commons, by protestation saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting at any time hereafter, any other accusation, or impeachment, against the said Lord Finch ; and also of replying to the answer that the said John, Lord Finch, shall make unto the said articles, or to any of them. and of offering proof of the premises, or any of their impeachments or accusations, that shall be exhibited by them as the case

shall, according to the course of parliament's require do pray, that the said John Lord Finch, Baron of Fordwich, Lord-Keeper of the Great-Seal of England, may be put to answer all, and every the premises, and such proceedings, examinations, trials, and judgments, as may be upon every of them had and used, and is agreeable to law and justice.

THE NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE



CHAPTER 15

FINCH, EARLS OF NOTTINGHAM

THE following pedigree commences with Sir Heneage Finch, Recorder of London (father of the first Earl) who was 3rd son of Sir Moyle Finch of Eastwell Place, Kent, and to follow the line back, reference must be made to (a) the Winchilsea Pedigree and (b) The Pedigree in the chapter on the Early History of the family. A picture of the Recorder's monument in Eastwell Church will be found amongst the illustrations, and the frontispiece is a reproduction in photogravure of Heneage the 1st Earl. These two, and the famous 2nd Earl (Daniel) who built Burley, are dealt with fully amongst the biographies.

There is a record of the death of The Hon : John Finch, a younger son of the 1st Earl "27th February 1725-6 Honble John Finch, 2nd brother to the Earl of Nottingham who had studied the Law, and through bodily infirmities had been many years confined to his Chambers in the King's Bench Walk in the Temple, who, sitting by his fireside unfortunately fell with his head on the stove and was burnt in so terrible a manner that he died a few hours after."

The following account of the arrangements for the alliance of Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset with Lady Charlotte, daughter of Daniel, 2nd Earl of Nottingham, may be of interest.

The Sixth Duke of Somerset—Charles Seymour, was a man—says Macaulay—in whom the pride of birth and rank amounted almost to a disease. The story of his second marriage is characteristic. He was far too royal to seek a bride for himself, but having decided to marry one of the numerous daughters of Daniel, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, he deputed his Chaplain, Matthew Hutton, to go to Burley and report upon the Ladies Finch. His report, still preserved at Petworth, saves appearances by speaking of the four brides—expectant—as "Books upon the subject of Religion and Morality." (Horace Walpole called them "the black funereal Finches"). The praises of Lady Charlotte Finch were sung in her absence, as she was then in London, but though it was admitted that while not any of them were set off with any uncommon outward ornament, L.C. had the least of all, yet she became Duchess of Somerset in 1725. The marriage of Lady Charlotte Finch to Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset, is recorded as having taken place "at his house in Bloomsbury Square by the Revd. Mr. Edwards, Chaplain to his Lordship."

THE NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, Serjeant-at-Law, Recorder of London, 3rd son of Sir Moyle Finch of Eastwell, Co., Kent, Bart, and brother of the 1st Earl of Winchilsea, was born at The Moat, near Canterbury, on 15th December 1580. He was knighted by the King on 20th June 1623. He died in 1631 and was buried in Eastwell Church

where a monument is erected to his memory. His Will is dated 16th April 1631, and was proved on 7th December that year (P.C.C. 132 St. John). He married twice, firstly to Frances, daughter to Sir Edmund Bell of Beaupré Hall, Norfolk (she died 11th April 1627). By this marriage Sir Heneage had three sons and a daughter, Elizabeth, who married a son of Sir Ralph Madyson of Lincoln, Kt.

The sons of this marriage were :—

- (1) Sir Heneage Finch, 1st Earl of Nottingham, of whom presently.
- (2) Francis Finch, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Parkhurst, and widow of Sir George Vandeput, a London Merchant.
- (3) Sir John Finch, Kt, Doctor of Physic (see Biography).

Sir Heneage Finch, the Recorder, married secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of William Cradock, of Co. Staffs, and widow of Richard Bennett, Alderman and Mercer of London. By this marriage Sir Heneage had two daughters (1) Frances, who married Sir Clifford Clifton, Kt, and (2) Ann, who married Edward, Viscount Conway (Marriage Licence dated 10th February, 1650-1).

SIR HENEAGE FINCH, 1st EARL OF NOTTINGHAM. (see Biography). Eldest son of the Recorder, was born on the 23rd December 1621, and married at Carlisle House, Lambeth, on 30th July 1646, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Daniel Harvey of London, by whom he had eight sons, and two daughters.

The sons of this marriage were :—

- (1) Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham (SEE WINCHILSEA AND NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE).
- (2) Heneage Finch, 1st Earl of Aylesford (SEE AYLESFORD PEDIGREE).
- (3) William Finch, who married Anne, daughter of Sir William Hoskins.
- (4) Edward Finch, died in infancy.
- (5) John Finch.
- (6) Charles Finch.
- (7) Thomas Finch, died in infancy.
- (8) Edward Finch.

The daughters of the marriage were :—

- (1) Elizabeth, who married Sir Samuel Grimston, Bart, M.P. for St. Albans.
- (2) Mary, died 10th February 1735.



THE LADY ESSEX FINCH.

SIR DANIEL FINCH, 2nd EARL OF NOTTINGHAM AND 6th EARL OF WINCHILSEA

DANIEL FINCH, second EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, and sixth EARL OF WINCHILSEA, born on Friday the 2nd July 1647, was the eldest son of HENEAGE FINCH, subsequently created EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, who married on Thursday the 30th July 1646, Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Harvey of Carlisle House, Lambeth. He was educated at Westminster School, and Christ Church, Oxford, where he entered as a gentleman-commoner in 1662. He left without a degree, entered the Inner Temple, and was chosen F.R.S. 26th November 1668. He was elected to Parliament for Great Bedwin, Wiltshire, 10th February 1672-3 but, apparently, did not sit until after being returned by the borough of Lichfield 7th August 1679. He was made a Lord at the Admiralty 14th May 1679. Adhering to the Tory politics of his family, he became a Privy Councillor 4th February 1679-80, and was First Lord of the Admiralty from 19th February following to 22nd May 1684. He was elected M.P. by both Lichfield and Newtown in March 1681, but was called to the House of Lords by his father's death, 18th December 1682. He signed the order for the proclamation of James II, and up to the time of Monmouth's insurrection, was one of that King's most steadfast supporters. The Ecclesiastical policy afterwards adopted by the Government damped the loyalty of the cavaliers and laid the foundation of that new Tory Party which held itself aloof from the Jacobites. In time Nottingham became recognised as their head. Their distinguishing tenet was devotion to the established Church in preference even to hereditary right. In the reign of Anne they were called the Hanoverian Tories, and sometimes known by the nickname of the "Whimsicals." Nottingham's career was consistent throughout. He was one of the last men in England to accept the revolution settlement ; but having once accepted it, he was one of the very few eminent statesmen of his time who never seem to have intrigued against it. Though Swift accuses him of having corresponded with the Stuarts, he made the charge in a moment of great exasperation, and there is no evidence in support of this charge. His private character is universally represented as stainless. Rowe tells us that he had an intrigue with an Opera singer, Signora Margaretta, afterwards Mrs. Tofts. But this was empty gossip. Both his principles and his virtues marked him out to be a leader of the clergy with whom his influence was unbounded. This influence was the secret of Nottingham's importance for nearly a generation after the death of Charles II.

Early in 1688 the Whigs resolved to take Nottingham into their confidence and invite his support in the intended revolution. He was for a time inclined to join in the appeal to the Prince of Orange ; but on second thoughts he declared that he could take no active part against his rightful sovereign. He admitted that his share in their confidence had given the Whigs the right to assassinate him on breaking with

them, and some of them were rather inclined to take him at his word. But they ended by relying on his honour, and had no reason to regret it.

Nottingham was a prominent figure in the parliamentary debates which followed James's flight from England. The tories were in favour of Sancroft's plan—a regency, that is, during the minority of the Prince of Wales ; and this was the policy proposed by Lord Nottingham in the House of Lords. The motion was only lost by 51 votes to 49 ; and then the Lords proceeded to consider the resolution which had been adopted by the Commons declaring the throne vacant. This was opposed by Nottingham, and the resolution was rejected by 55 votes to 41. The House of Commons, however, refused to give way, and the House of Lords found it necessary to yield. Nottingham proposed a modification of the oaths of allegiance and supremacy for the sake of tender consciences, which was accepted by both houses, and he then fairly threw in his lot with the new regime, though he still maintained in theory his allegiance to the Stuarts. Nottingham, according to Bishop Burnet, was the author of the distinction between the king *de jure* and the king *de facto* in which the old cavalier party found so welcome a refuge.

From December 1688 until the end of 1693 he was Secretary of State for War. One of his first duties was the introduction of the Toleration Act. He seems to have sincerely believed it to be conducive to the stability of the Church. It left the Act of Uniformity, the Test and Corporation Acts, the Conventicle Act, the Five Mile Act, and the act making attendance at church compulsory, in full force, only enacting that on certain conditions dissenters might be exempted from the penalties attaching to the violation of the law. These conditions were intended to serve as a test by which dangerous dissenters could be distinguished from harmless ones. Those, it was thought, who would subscribe five of the Thirty-nine Articles, take the oath of allegiance, and sign the declaration against popery might be safely trusted. Ten years before Nottingham, as a member of the House of Commons, had framed a bill on much the same lines, which only failed to become law by an artifice. At the same time he now brought in a less popular measure, a comprehension bill for enabling dissenters to conform to the Church of England. The Bishop of London supported the Bill in the House of Lords, where it was violently opposed by Bishop Burnet. Nottingham would probably have succeeded in his effort had it not been for the dissenters themselves. Those who were unwilling to accept the compromise were naturally interested in preventing others from accepting it, and between the active hostility of its enemies and the lukewarm support of its friends, the measure fell to the ground. An attempt made at the same time by some members of the Whig party to repeal the Test Act was dropped with it.

When William III set out for Ireland in 1690 he left behind him a council of nine, of whom Nottingham was one, to act as advisers of Mary, and it fell to his lot to bring her the tidings of the battle of the Boyne. Nottingham, who was admitted to a greater share of the Queen's confidence than any other English statesman, always said that if she survived her husband William she would bring about the restoration of her father James. He had, however, bitter enemies in Parliament. He was

hated by the extreme men of both sides, and was perhaps not much loved even by those who respected him. Much discontent was caused by the failure to follow up the victory of La Hogue in May 1692. Admiral Russell, as the commander of the allied fleet was blamed by the public, and Russell blamed Nottingham from whom he received his orders. A parliamentary enquiry ended in nothing ; but Russell was acquitted of all blame by the House of Commons, though Nottingham was defended by the Lords. The King found it necessary to do something ; he was very unwilling to part with Nottingham, and accordingly persuaded Russell to accept a post in the household, Admirals Killigrew and Delavel, both tories, being entrusted with the command of the Channel Fleet. They thus became responsible for the disaster which happened to the convoy under the command of Sir George Rooke in the Bay of Lagos in June 1693, and when Parliament met the following November, they were forced to retire. Russell was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty and commander of the Channel Fleet, and Nottingham's resignation was inevitable. The King parted from him with great reluctance. He thanked him for his past services, and declared that he had no fault to find with him.

Nottingham remained out of office till the Accession of Queen Anne. Six weeks after William's death, 8th March 1702, he was appointed Secretary of State, with Sir Charles Hedges for his colleague. Though a consistent anti-jacobite, Nottingham was a staunch tory. He upheld during the war of the Spanish succession the doctrine, thenceforward identified with the tory policy that in a continual war we should act rather as auxiliaries than as principals, and that our operations should be exclusively maritime. This opinion, whenever the opportunity offered, Nottingham upheld in his place in Parliament. But his heart was in the church question, to which he was ready to sacrifice even his party allegiance.

As soon as the new Parliament assembled a bill for the prevention of occasional conformity was introduced in the House of Commons by St. John, no doubt after due consultation with the leader of the church party. Both the Corporation Act and the Test Act were designed to keep all places of public trust or authority in the hands of the Church of England. And the question that arose during the last years of the seventeenth century was simply this, whether the evasion of the law by dissenters should be connived at or prevented. It was supposed that no honest dissenters would communicate according to the rites of the Church of England merely to obtain a qualification for office, but it was found in practice that the large majority of them did so, and, indeed, had been in the habit of so communicating before the passing of the Test Act. Nottingham had shown both in 1679 and 1689 that he was no bigot, and it is possible that circumstances of which we know nothing may have contributed to make him prefer an attempt to enforce the test to the alternative policy of connivance at conduct which could hardly raise the reputation of the occasional conformists themselves. Three sessions running, 1702, 1703, and 1704, the bill was passed through the Commons, and Nottingham exerted himself to the utmost to get it carried through the upper house. But it was all in vain, and the question was allowed to rest again for seven years.

Nottingham resigned in 1704, when he found it impossible to agree with his whig colleagues. He told the Queen that she must either get rid of the whig members of the Cabinet or accept his own resignation. Greatly to the minister's mortification she decided on the latter, and from this time Nottingham's zeal as a political tory began to cool, and the very next year he took his revenge on the Court by persuading some of his tory friends to join with him in an address to the Crown begging that the Electress Sophia might be invited to reside in England. Anne, who was exceedingly sensitive on this point, never forgave Nottingham, and he in his turn continued to drift further away from his old associates. Against Harley he was supposed to nurture a special grudge. He had committed the grave offence of accepting the seals which Nottingham had thrown up, and the ex-secretary was quite willing to retaliate whenever an opportunity should occur.

In 1710 the trial of Sacheverell took place. Nottingham throughout took Sacheverell's side, and signed all the protests recorded by the opposition peers against the proceedings of his accusers.

His rupture with the court may be said to have been complete, when, on the death of Lord Rochester, Lord President of the council, in April 1711, the post was conferred on the Duke of Buckingham. The Privy Seal, which became vacant about the same time, was given to Bishop Robinson, and from that moment it is no want of charity to conclude that Nottingham felt his cup was full. When it was known that the new Government were bent on putting an end to the war, the whig opposition became furious. But in the House of Commons the tories had a large majority, and in the House of Lords the whigs required some help from the other side. Nottingham was in a similar predicament with regard to the Occasional Conformity Bill. He was sure of the Commons, but in the upper house he had hitherto been unsuccessful, and it was likely to be so unless the opposition could be disarmed. The bargain was soon struck. The whigs agreed to withdraw their resistance to the Church Bill on condition that Nottingham in turn would support them in an attack upon the Government. He readily accepted an offer which enabled him to gratify his love of the church and his hatred of the ministry at the same moment. On 7th December 1711 he moved an amendment to the address, declaring that no peace would be acceptable to this country which left Spain and the Indies in the possession of the house of Bourbon. It was carried by a majority of twelve, and Harley and St. John replied by the creation of twelve new peers.

Nottingham, however, claimed his reward. A week after the division the Occasional Conformity Bill was reintroduced into the House of Lords, and on 22nd December, received the royal assent. It provided that "if any officer, civil or military, or any magistrate of a corporation obliged by the Acts of Charles the Second to receive the Sacrament, should during his continuance in office attend any conventicle or religious meeting of dissenters such person should forfeit £40, be disabled from holding his office, and incapable of being appointed to another till he could prove that he had not been to chapel for twelve months." In this unprincipled transaction Nottingham, though sincere enough in his zeal for the church, was actuated quite



J. Kneller pinx

In the possession of the Countess Dowager of Nottingham.

J. Houbraken sculp

as much by jealousy of the Earl of Oxford as by disapproval of the policy of Bolingbroke. Nottingham can have had no concern in a tract published in 1713 bearing his name. The tract, entitled "Observations on the State of the Nation," maintains the ultra low-church view of church government and doctrine. It was reissued in the "Somers Tracts" in 1751 as "The Memorial of the State of England in Vindication of the Church, the Queen, and the Administration."

Nottingham, who probably expected that the vote of the House of Lords would bring the Ministry to the ground and pave the way for his own return to office, was mistaken. It is to his credit that having gained all that he thought necessary for the church in 1711 he opposed the Schism Bill, which was carried in June 1714 to please the still more ultra section of the high church Tories. Yet by so doing he again served his own interests, for it helped to cement his good understanding with the Whigs and to insure his being recommended for high office on the accession of George I. The new King landed at Greenwich on 18th September 1714, and in the first Hanoverian ministry, Nottingham was made President of the Council, with a seat in the Cabinet, then consisting of nine peers. But he only held office for about a year and a half. In February 1716 it was moved in the House of Lords that an address should be presented to the King in favour of showing mercy to the Jacobite peers, then lying under sentence of death for their share in the rebellion of 1715. The government opposed the motion, but Nottingham supported the address, which was carried by a majority of five. It produced no effect, except on the unlucky intercessor, who was immediately deprived of his appointment and never again employed in the service of the Crown. His only parliamentary appearances of any importance after this date were in opposition to the Septennial Bill in 1716 and the repeal of the Occasional Conformity Bill in 1719. His name appears in the protest against the first; but the second passed with less difficulty, and no protest appears on the minutes.

After his retirement from Office, Nottingham lived principally at Burley-on-the-Hill. It was here that he wrote "the answer of the Earl of Nottingham to Mr. Whiston's Letter to him concerning the eternity of the Son of God," 1721, which restored all his popularity with the clergy, rather damaged by his acceptance of office with the Whigs. The pamphlet rapidly reached the eighth edition. Nottingham succeeded to the Earldom of Winchelsea on the death of John, the 5th Earl on 9th September 1729. Nottingham married, first Lady Essex Rich, second daughter and co-heiress of Robert, Earl of Warwick, and secondly Anne, daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton. By his first wife he had a daughter, Mary; by his second five sons and seven daughters.

In person Nottingham was tall, thin, and dark-complexioned. His manner was so solemn and the expression of his countenance was, generally speaking, so lugubrious, that he acquired the nicknames of Don Diego and Don Dismal, he and his brother, Heneage, first Earl of Aylesford, being known as the "Dismals." He figures as Don Deigo in the "History of John Bull" and in the "Tatler" (1709), and Swift in his correspondence is always making fun of him. He is the subject of a famous ballad, "An

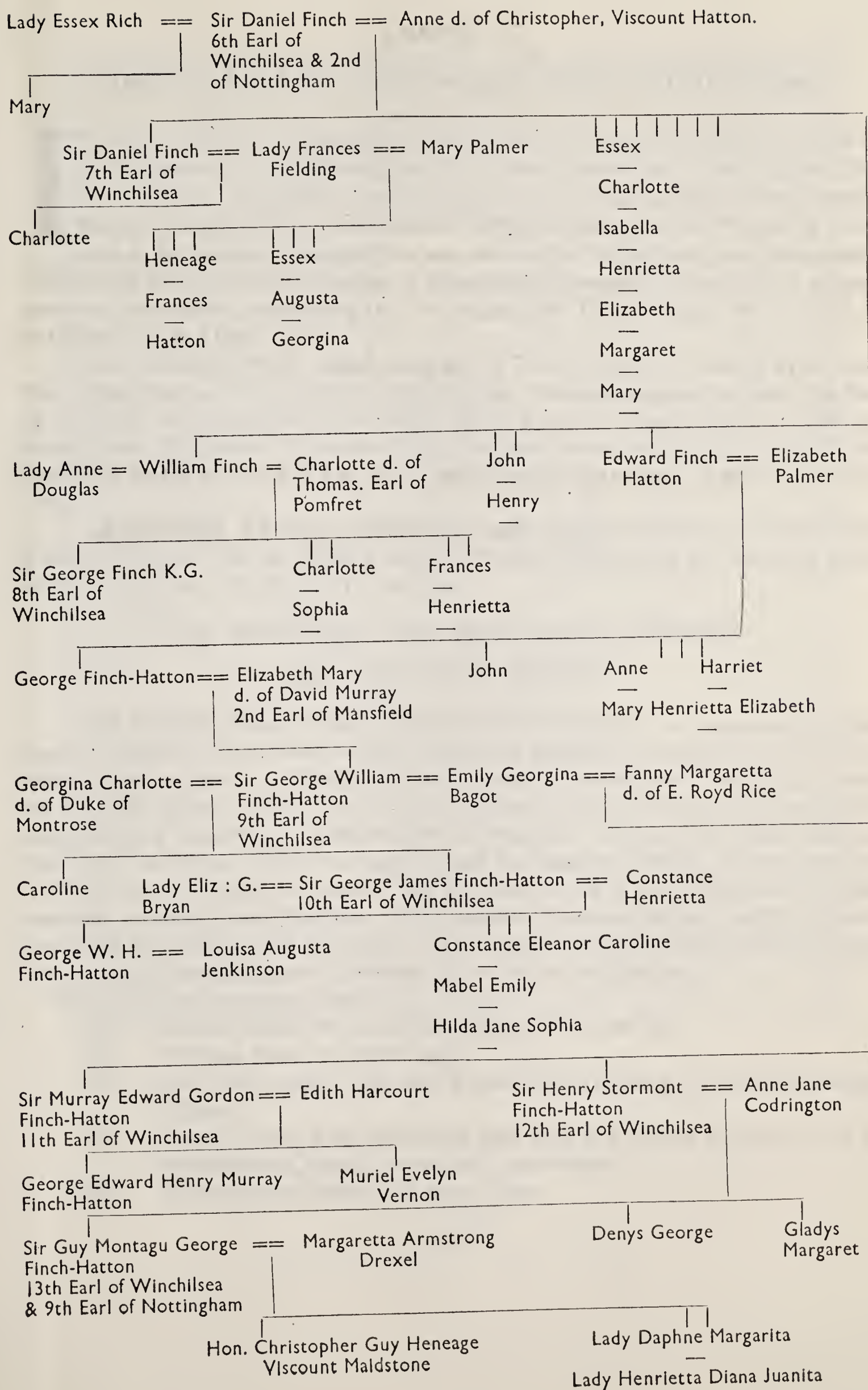
Orator Dismal of Nottinghamshire," by the same eminent hand. When he joined the Whigs in 1711 the "Post Boy" (6th December) offered a reward of ten shillings to any one who should restore him to his friends, promising that all should be forgiven. Reference is made there to his "long pockets."

He died at Burley-on-the-Hill 1st January 1729-30 and was interred in the family vault in Ravenstone Church, Co. Bucks 15th January 1729-30. His son, The Hon. Charles Finch had been buried there 7th April 1701. His younger brother, Heneage Finch, was created Baron of Guernsey, and later (19th October 1714) Earl of Aylesford. His will, written entirely in his own handwriting, was made on 28th July 1729 and proved on 6th June 1730 by his three executors "The Rt. Hon. Thomas, Lord Malton, the Honourable and Reverend my brother Edward Finch, and Sir Roger Mostyn (Baronet)." His second wife survived him, and he left her "the lease of my house in Bloomsbury Square together with all furniture and household stuff and utensils *except my scrittore and the cabinet in my dressing-room and the books in my closet.*" He directed "the two gilt silver bottles which were made of the Great Seal" and his "anatomy tables" to be created heirlooms and to belong "to my family and by such persons of it who from time to time shall be entitled to my house at Burley in Rutland." In his will he expressed the wish to be buried "next to my late dear wife in the vault at Ravenstone in Bucks with all the modesty and privacy that may be" and he says "there remains but little to dispose of by this my Will, I having settled and disposed of almost all by two deeds bearing date the 25th and 26th days of July 1729 (the two days immediately preceding the day on which he wrote his Will).



SIR GEORGE FINCH, 8th. EARL OF WINCHILSEA
AND 4th. OF NOTTINGHAM, K.G.

THE WINCHILSEA AND NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE



CHAPTER 17

FINCH, EARLS OF WINCHILSEA AND NOTTINGHAM

IN many places it is erroneously stated that the present Earl (1932) is 14th of Winchilsea and 9th of Nottingham. It is correct to say 9th of Nottingham, but he is 13th of Winchilsea, and not 14th. In the 18th century this is correctly stated, but apparently, in more recent times, the fact that Sir Theophilus Finch died in his mother's lifetime (she was wife to Sir Moyle Finch and only created Viscountess Maidstone and Countess of Winchilsea subsequent to becoming a widow) seems to have been overlooked, and his brother, Sir Thomas Finch, the 1st Earl, is referred to as 2nd Earl.

Lady Charlotte Finch, eldest daughter of Daniel Finch, 7th Earl of Winchilsea and 3rd of Nottingham by his wife Lady Frances Fielding, daughter of Basil, 4th Earl of Denbigh, was Governess of the Royal Nursery with an appointment of £600 per annum (see *Gentleman's Magazine* 1796). She died unmarried on 19th May 1796 at Hereford Street where she was living with her half-sister Lady Augusta Elizabeth Finch.

George Finch, 8th Earl of Winchilsea, sold all his properties in Daventry by public auction in 1786 for £21673, and the Manors of Daventry and Drayton were acquired by Joseph Clarke of Welton Place.

THE WINCHILSEA AND NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE

(SEE NOTTINGHAM PEDIGREE)

SIR DANIEL FINCH, 2nd EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, and subsequently 6th Earl of Winchilsea, was born on 2nd of July and baptised on the 8th July 1647. He died on the 1st January 1729-30, and was buried in Ravenstone Church, Co. Bucks on the 15th January of that year. He married twice, firstly, to the Lady Essex Rich, daughter and co-heiress of Robert, Earl of Warwick. The marriage took place on 16th June 1674, and by this marriage he had one daughter, Mary, who married (1) William Saville, Marquis of Halifax, and (2) John, Duke of Roxburgh. His Lordship married, secondly, Anne, daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton, on 29th December, 1685 (she died on 26th September 1743). There were 12 children of this marriage, five sons, and seven daughters (referred to as the funereal Finches).

The sons of the marriage were :—

- (1) Daniel Finch, 7th Earl of Winchilsea, of whom later.
- (2) William Finch, of whom later.
- (3) John Finch, died 12th, and buried 20th February 1763 in Ravenstone Church.
- (4) Henry Finch, died unmarried 26th May and buried 6th June 1761 in Ravenstone Church. He was M.P. for Malton.
- (5) Edward Finch-Hatton, of whom later.



The Amorous Beauty.
 Beneath the Weight of hapless Love ~ ~ ~ In vain against Love's fatal darts.
 How weak does every Effort prove ~ ~ ~ The tender Soul its Force averts.
 When struggling to get free ~ ~ ~ and pants for Liberty.
 London Printed

LADY CHARLOTTE FINCH.
 (daughter of Thomas, 1st. Earl of Pomfret)

The daughters of the marriage were :—

- (1) Essex, married on 20th July 1703 Sir Roger Mostyn, Bart.
- (2) Charlotte, married on 4th February 1725-6 to Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset.
- (3) Isabella.
- (4) Henrietta, married on 22nd January 1732 to William Fitzroy, Duke of Cleveland.
- (5) Elizabeth, married on 20th September 1738 to William, 1st Earl of Mansfield.
- (6) Margaret.
- (7) Mary, married (1) on 2nd April 1695 to Sir William Savile, 2nd Marquis of Halifax and (2) Thomas, 1st Marquis of Rockingham.

His Lordship was succeeded by his eldest son,

SIR DANIEL FINCH, 7th EARL OF WINCHILSEA and 3rd OF NOTTINGHAM, who died without male issue on 2nd August, and was buried on 12th August, 1769, in Ravenstone Church. He was made a K.G. on 13th March 1752. His Lordship married twice, firstly, to the Lady Frances Fielding, daughter of Basil, 4th Earl of Denbigh (she died 8th October 1734). There was one daughter of this marriage, Lady Charlotte Finch, Governess of the Royal Nursery who died unmarried on 19th May 1796. His Lordship married, secondly, Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Palmer, of Wingham, Kent, Bart, on the 19th January 1737-8 (she died on 8th August 1757). There were six daughters of this marriage. Heneage, who married Sir George Osborne of Chicksands, Bart ; Hatton, who died unmarried in 1829 ; Augusta Elizabeth, died unmarried 5th August 1797 ; Frances ; Essex ; and Georgina, who was buried at Ravenstone on 13th November 1744.

WILLIAM FINCH, 2nd son of Daniel, 6th Earl of Winchilsea, died before his older brother, the 7th Earl of Winchilsea on 25th December 1756. He was an M.P. and P.C., also Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Sweden, and Vice-Chamberlain of the Household. He married twice. By his first wife, Lady Anne Douglas, sister to Charles, Duke of Queensbury and Dover, he had no issue. He married, secondly, on 9th August 1746 Charlotte, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Pomfret, by whom he had one son and four daughters. The son, George Finch, succeeded his Uncle Daniel, as 8th Earl of Winchilsea, and the daughters were:— Charlotte, who died on the 19th November 1767 ; Frances ; Sophia, who married Capt. Charles Fielding, and Henrietta.

SIR GEORGE FINCH, 8th EARL OF WINCHILSEA and 4th OF NOTTINGHAM, succeeded his Uncle, Daniel Finch, in 1769. He was Lord Lieutenant for Co. Rutland, and was made K.G. on 17th January 1805, and installed on 23rd April following. He was born on the 4th November 1752, and died unmarried on 2nd August 1826. (W.D. 13th December 1825-P.C.C. 468 Swabey). On his death the title passed to George William Finch-Hatton, grandson of Edward Finch-Hatton, younger son of Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham and 6th of Winchilsea.

EDWARD FINCH-HATTON, (youngest son of Daniel Finch 2nd Earl of Nottingham and 6th of Winchilsea), assumed the additional surname of Hatton under the provisions of the Will of his Aunt, Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Viscount Hatton, to whose estates he succeeded, and resided at Kirby Hall, Northamptonshire. He was M.P. for Cambridge University, and Groom of the Bedchamber, and Master of the Robes. He died on 16th May 1771. On 6th September 1746 he married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Palmer, Bart, of Wingham, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) George Finch-Hatton, of whom later.
- (2) John Finch-Hatton, born 19th May 1755, and died 10th January 1841.

The daughters were :—

Harriet Frances Charlotte, who married Sir Jenison William Gordon, Bart ; Anne, and Mary Henrietta Elizabeth.

GEORGE FINCH-HATTON (son of Edward Finch-Hatton and Elizabeth Palmer) was born in 1747, and resided at Eastwell Park, Kent. He married on 10th December 1785, and died on 17th February 1823. By his wife Elizabeth Mary, daughter of David Murray, 2nd Earl of Mansfield, he had a son;—

SIR GEORGE WILLIAM FINCH-HATTON, 9th Earl of Winchilsea and 5th of Nottingham, who, as stated, succeeded to the title in 1826. He was of Kirby Hall, Northamptonshire. He was born 19th May 1791, and died on 8th January 1858. He married, firstly, on 26th July 1814 Georgina Charlotte, daughter of James, 3rd Duke of Montrose, by whom he had a son, George James, who succeeded as 10th Earl of Winchilsea, and a daughter, Caroline, who married Christopher Turnor on 2nd February 1837 (she died 13th March 1888 aged 71). His Lordship married, secondly, Emily Georgina, daughter of Rt. Hon. Sir George Bagot. There was no issue of this marriage. (Date of Marriage 15th March 1837—she died 10th July 1848). His Lordship married, thirdly, on 17th October 1849, Fanny Margaretta, daughter of Edward Royd Rice, M.P., of Dane Court, Kent, by whom he had two sons,—

- (1) Murray Edward Gordon Finch-Hatton, 11th Earl, of whom later.
- (2) Henry Stormont, 12th Earl, of whom later.

SIR GEORGE JAMES FINCH-HATTON, 10th Earl of Winchilsea and 6th of Nottingham, was born on 31st May 1815, and died on 9th June 1887. He married, firstly, on 6th August 1846, Constance Henrietta, daughter of Henry, 2nd Marquess of Anglesey (she died on 5th March, 1878), by whom he had one son and three daughters.

The son was :—

- (1) George William Heneage Finch-Hatton, Viscount Maidstone, born 26th December 1852, died 3rd February 1879. On 28th December 1876 he married Louisa Augusta, daughter of Sir George Jenkinson, 11th Bart, M.P. There were no children of the marriage, and on his death she married secondly, Lt. Col. F. J. Ashburner, of the 2nd Dragoon Guards.



MONUMENT TO LADY CHARLOTTE FINCH
(by Chantry)

The daughters were :—

- (1) Constance Eleanora Caroline, who married the Hon. Frederick Charles Howard.
- (2) Mabel Emily, who married William George, Lord Auckland.
- (3) Hilda Jane Sophia, who married H. V. Higgins, C.V.O., of the 1st Life Guards.

His Lordship married secondly, on 16th February 1882, the Lady Elizabeth Georgiana Bryan, daughter of the 2nd Marquess Conyngham, K.P. She died 2nd February 1904, s.p. His Lordship died on 9th June 1887, and his only son having predeceased him, he was succeeded in the title by his half-brother Murray Edward Gordon-Finch-Hatton.

SIR MURRAY EDWARD GORDON FINCH-HATTON, 11th Earl of Winchilsea, and 7th of Nottingham, was born on 28th March 1851, and was a Fellow of Hertford College, Oxford. On 27th October 1875 he married Edith, only daughter of Edward William Harcourt Esq., by whom he had a son George Edward Henry Murray Finch-Hatton, Viscount Maidstone, who died on 8th March 1892, and a daughter, Muriel Evelyn Vernon, who married on 31st May 1897 Sir Richard Arthur Surtees Paget, Bart. His Lordship died on 7th September 1898, being succeeded by his brother:—

SIR HENRY STORMONT FINCH-HATTON, 12th Earl of Winchilsea and 8th of Nottingham, who was born on 3rd November 1852, and married on 12th January 1882 to Anne Jane, daughter of Admiral of the Fleet, Sir Henry John Codrington, K.C.B., by whom he had two sons and one daughter.

The sons are :—

- (1) Guy Montagu George Finch-Hatton, of whom later.
- (2) Denys George Finch-Hatton, M.C., born 24th April 1887.

Daughter :—

Gladys Margaret, who married on 5th February 1912, Capt. O. T. D. Williams, D.S.O. (son of Sir Osmond Williams, Bart), who died of wounds received in action 1915.

His Lordship died on 14th August 1927, being succeeded by,

SIR GUY MONTAGU GEORGE FINCH-HATTON O.B.E., D.S.C., (the present Earl), 13th Earl of Winchilsea and 9th of Nottingham, Lord of the Manor of Wye, who was born on 28th May 1885, and married on 8th June 1910, Margaretta Armstrong, daughter of Anthony Joseph Drexel of Philadelphia, U.S.A., by whom he has a son, Christopher Guy Heneage Finch-Hatton, Viscount Maidstone, born 2nd August 1911, and two daughters : (1) Lady Daphne Margarita (b. 1913), (2) Lady Henrietta Diana Juanita (b. 1916). His Lordship resides at Buckfield, near Basingstoke, Hants.

BIOGRAPHIES—PART 2

HENEAGE FINCH, SECOND EARL OF WINCHILSEA (d. 1689), son of Thomas, the 1st Earl. He was educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and succeeded to the title of Viscount Maidstone in 1633, and of Earl of Winchilsea in 1639. He distinguished himself on the Royalist side during the great rebellion, providing auxiliary troops (horse and foot) at his own expense, and supplying "with great hazard" Charles II's necessities in foreign parts. He was a friend of Monck, and was made Governor of Dover Castle in 1660. Upon the Restoration, he was created a Baron, by the title of Lord Fitz-Herbert of Eastwell, in recognition of his descent from the House of Herbert, 26th June 1660, and on 10th July was appointed Lord-lieutenant of Kent. Early in 1661 he went on an important embassy to Sultan Mahomet Chan IV, and published an account of it the same year. He remained as English Ambassador at Constantinople eight years, and on his return journey wrote from Naples to the King a description, which was afterwards printed, of the eruptions of Mount Etna. He was reinstated on his arrival in England Lord-lieutenant of Kent, and Governor of Dover Castle, but was, with a long list of other lieutenants, dismissed from the former post in 1687. When James II was stopped at Faversham by the Kentish fishermen he, the King, wrote to Winchilsea who was at Canterbury, asking him to come to him. The Earl arrived before night (12th December) and interposed on behalf of the King besides moving him to a more suitable lodging in a private house. When James fled for the second time, Winchilsea was one of those who voted for offering the vacant throne to William and Mary, and in March 1689 was again Lord-lieutenant of Kent. He died in August the same year. He married four times : (1) Diana, daughter of Francis, fifth Lord Willoughby of Parham ; (2) Mary, daughter of William Seymour, Marquis of Hertford ; (3) Catherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Norcliff ; (4) Elizabeth, daughter of John Ayres Esquire (who survived him and proved his Will).

His published works were : (1) "Narrative of the Success of his Embassy to Turkey. The voyage of the Right Honourable Heneage Finch from Smyrna to Constantinople. His arrival there, and the manner of his Entertainment and Audience with the Grand Vizier and Grand Seignieur," London 1661. (2) A true and exact Relation of the late prodigious Earthquake and Eruption of Mount Etna, or Mount Gibello, as it came in a letter written to His Majesty from Naples. By the Right Honourable the Earl of Winchilsea, His Majesty's late Ambassador at Constantinople, who, on his return from thence, visiting Catania, in the Island of Sicily, was an eye witness of that dreadful spectacle. Together with a more particular Narrative of the same, as it is collected out of several relations sent from Catania. With a view of the Mountain and Conflagration. (London, 1669).

His Will was made on 18th August 1689 and was proved by his widow, Elizabeth, dowager Countess of Winchilsea on 10th September following. (P.C.C. 131 Ent).

EDWARD FINCH, Royalist divine, was brother of John, Lord Finch of Fordwich, and thus younger son of Sir Henry Finch, by Ursula, daughter of John Thwaites of Kent. On 9th December 1630 Edward was admitted to the vicarage of Christ Church, Newgate. Walker celebrates him as the first of the parochial clergy actually dispossessed by the committee for scandalous ministers. A resolution of parliament, 8th May 1641, declared him unfit to hold any benefice. The articles against him allege that he had set up the communion-table altarwise, and preached in a surplice ; they also detail a list of charges more or less affecting his character. Walker, who had not seen the pamphlet containing the articles and evidence in the case, makes the best of Finch's printed defence, but on Finch's own showing, there was ground for scandal. Finch died soon after his sequestration ; his successor, William Jenkyn, was admitted on 1st February 1642. There is a doubt as to whether he was married. It was said that he had a wife.

Finch published "An answer to the Articles," &c, London 1641. This was in reply to "The Petition and Articles exhibited in Parliament against Edward Finch, Vicar of Christ's Church, London, and brother to Sir J. Finch, late Lord Keeper," &c, 1641. This pamphlet has a woodcut of Finch, and a cut representing his journey to Hammersmith with a party of loose characters. The main point of Finch's defence on this charge was that one of the party was his sister.

SIR JOHN FINCH, Physician, younger son of Sir Heneage Finch, Speaker of the House of Commons, was born in 1626, and after education at Mr. Sylvester's School in the parish of All Saints, Oxford, entered Balliol College as a gentleman-commoner, and graduated B.A. 22nd May 1647. He left Oxford in 1648 and graduated M.A. at Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1649. He then went to Padua and took the degree of M.D. in that University. He was appointed English Consul at Padua and made syndic of the university there. The Grand Duke of Tuscany afterwards appointed him to a professorship at Pisa. After the Restoration he returned to England, and on 26th February 1661 was elected fellow of the College of Physicians of London. Lord Clarendon presented Finch to the King, who knighted him on 10th June 1661, and on 26th June in the same year he was created M.D. at Cambridge, Dr. Carr appearing as his proxy. He was one of the fellows admitted by the council of the Royal Society, in the virtue of the power given them for two months, on 20th May 1663. Nottingham house, now called Kensington Palace belonged to Finch, and was sold by him to his elder brother, Sir Heneage Finch. In 1665 he was sent as minister to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and in 1672 was promoted to be Ambassador at Constantinople. On his voyage thither he stopped at Leghorn and at Malta to arrange the restitution of some goods belonging to the basha of Tunis, which had been seized by English privateers. He left his house in Pera on 2nd May 1675 with a retinue of 120 horses

and 55 carts of baggage, and after a nine day's journey reached Adrianople. The object of the visit was to obtain the Sultan's confirmation of privileges granted to English residents in his dominions, and after tedious delays this was accomplished on 8th September. The town was crowded, and the ambassador, who had at first wretched lodgings, was later obliged to live in tents in the fields owing to an epidemic of plague, of which some of his household died. He returned to Constantinople and almost immediately afterwards to England, taking with him the embalmed body of his friend and companion Sir Thomas Baines who had died of the plague on 5th September 1681. He had made a Will on 2nd June 1673 and added a codicil to it at Pera on 19th September 1681 to comply with an arrangement he had made with Sir Thomas Baines to endow fellowships and Scholarships at Christ's College, Cambridge. Sir John travelled to England on board H.M.S. Oxford and was taken ill of the sickness, from which he never recovered although he got back to England, dying in his house known as Queen Street House on 18th November 1682. He wrote a letter of directions on 24th January 1682 whilst aboard the "Oxford" to his "Deare and Honoured Brother Heneage, Lord Finch, Earl of Nottingham and Lord High Chancellor" whom he appointed his sole executor, which was attached to and made a part of his Will. In this letter he refers to his sickness "since the good hand of God hath laid correction on me by sending me besides the irreparable losse of Sir Thomas Baines a double Tertian accompanied by Malignity I have much reason to feare I shall never see your face again." The fund left for Christ's College, Cambridge, jointly with Sir Thomas Baines had to provide £50 per annum "to the exercise of the Mastership" and two fellowships, each of £60 a year, and two scholarships each of £10 a year. He left his nephew Charles Finch his Manor of Herald near Ipswich, and his nephew Edward Finch, fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge his parsonage of Ashford in Kent. In accordance with the desire expressed in this letter, he was buried along with his friend Sir Thomas Baines under a noble monument on the North side of Christ's College Chapel, Cambridge.

His friendship with Sir Thomas Baines is the most interesting circumstance of the life of Finch. It began at Cambridge where Henry More the Platonist introduced Finch, on his migration from Oxford, to Baines, already a member of Christ's College. They pursued the same studies and lived in the same places, both graduated in medicine at Padua, were admitted fellows of the College of Physicians of London on the same day, and were together created Doctors of physic at Cambridge. When Finch had been knighted he sought the same honour for Baines, and when he went abroad as an Ambassador he took Sir Thomas Baines with him as physician to the Embassy. They consulted together on every difficulty, and at Constantinople were known as the Ambassador and the Chevalier, and it was considered as important to secure the influence of the one as of the other. Thus constant through life, they are buried side by side, under the same marble canopy, and are every year commemorated as benefactors of their College.

HENEAGE FINCH, first Earl of Aylesford, second son of Heneage Finch, and first Earl of Nottingham, was educated at Westminster School, and Christ Church, Oxford. He left the University without a degree, and entering the legal profession was admitted a barrister of the Inner Temple. His name soon became known as the author of various reports of celebrated trials and other legal tracts ; he was made a K.C. 10th July 1677, and Solicitor-General in 1679, entering Parliament as member for the University of Oxford in the same year. In 1686 he was deprived of the Solicitor-generalship by James II, and two years later pleaded as leading counsel on the side of the seven Bishops. He sat for Guildford in the parliament of 1685, again representing the University of Oxford in the Convention parliament of 1689-90, and all subsequent ones (except that elected in 1698) till his promotion to the Peerage in 1703. Burnet relates that in the debate on the act of Settlement in 1701, Finch attempted to alter the clause for abjuring the Prince of Wales into an obligation not to assist him, and pressed his point " with unusual vehemence in a debate that he resumed seventeen times in one session against all rules." In August 1702 he was chosen by the University to present a complimentary address to Queen Anne on her visit to Oxford, and was, in 1703 created " in consideration of his great merit and abilities " Baron Guernsey, and sworn in as a member of the Privy Council. Burnet remarks that there were great reflections on the promotion of Finch and others, to make, it was said, a majority for the Stuarts in the House of Lords. In 1711 he also became master of the jewel house. On the accession of George I he was made an Earl, and took the title of Earl of Aylesford. Besides this new dignity, he was again sworn of the Privy Council, and created Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, which office he resigned in 1716. He died 22nd July 1719, and was buried at Aylesford, Kent. He married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Banks of Aylesford, by whom he had nine children (three sons and six daughters).

His portrait appears in the print engraved by White in 1689 of the counsel of the seven Bishops.

PETER FINCH, Presbyterian minister, son of Henry Finch, the ejected minister, was born on 6th October 1661. On 3rd May 1678 he entered the non-conformist academy of Richard Frankland at Natland, Westmoreland. He soon removed to the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.A. on 16th July 1680. His first employment was as Chaplain in the family of William Ashurst, afterwards knighted. In 1691 he was invited to become colleague at Norwich to Josiah Chorley ; his first entry in the presbyterian register of baptisms is dated 1st June 1692. He remained at his post for over sixty-two years, and survived Edward Crane and Thomas Dixon the younger, both of whom had been designated as his successor. Himself a strict Calvinist, he contributed much by his love of peace, to preserve concord when doctrinal differences threatened to divide his flock. From 1733 John Taylor, the Hebraist, was his colleague. He died on his ninety-third birthday, 6th October 1754, and was buried in the church of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. A small portrait of him hangs in the vestry of the Octagon Chapel. His great grandson, Peter, was mayor of Norwich in 1827.

EDWARD FINCH, Composer, born in 1664, was the fifth son of Heneage, first Earl of Nottingham. He proceeded M.A. in 1679, and became fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. He represented the University of Cambridge in the Parliament of 1689-90. He was ordained Deacon at York in 1700, became Rector of Wigan, was appointed Prebendary of York, 26th April 1704, and resided in the north end of the Treasurer's house in the Close, taking an active interest in musical matters, as appears from the family correspondence. Finch was installed Prebendary of Canterbury, 8th February 1710. He died 14th February 1737-8, aged 75, at York, where a monument erected by him in the Minster to his wife and brother (Henry, Dean of York) bears a bust and inscription to his memory.

Finch's "Te Deum" and anthem, "Grant, we beseech Thee," both written in five parts, are to be found in Dr. Tudway's "Collection of Services" (Harleian M.S.S. 7337-42); "A Grammar of Thorough Bass," with examples, a manuscript of sixty-six pages, is in the Ewing Library at Glasgow. Of Finch's manuscript letters, that addressed to his brother Daniel, second Earl of Nottingham, and dated Winwick, 12th July 1702, is of interest; he there enunciates his views of a sinecure and discusses other questions of preferment.

MARGARET FINCH, Queen of the Gypsies.—It is recorded that Margaret Finch was buried at Beckenham on 24th October 1740. After travelling over various parts of the kingdom during the greater part of a century, she settled at Norwood, whither her great age and the fame of her fortune telling attracted numerous visitors. From a habit of sitting on the ground with her chin resting on her knees the sinews at length became so contracted that she could not rise from that posture. After her death they were obliged to enclose her body in a deep square box. She died at the age of 109 years.



Drawn from the Life by Geo. Frisbie 1732

Engraved by Geo. Roberts 1742

MARGARET FINCH Queen of the Gypsies at NORWOOD.

This remarkable Person was Born in Sutton in Kent; lived to the Age of 108 Years, after a Course of Stravelling in Kingdom, as Queen of the Gypsies Tribe. Her Place of residence was at Norwood about eleven Years before her decease; by her constant custom of sitting on the Ground with her thin resting on her Knees (as above drawn) her Limbs became so Contracted, that she could not extend herself or change her Position; so that when she died her Corps was forced to be cramm'd into a Box sizeable to her usual Posture, and therein conveyed in a Hearse accompanied by two Coaches to Becknam in Kent, where she was decently interred with a Funeral, & many Tradition of Veneration in the Year 1730: the Expence of which was defray'd by the neighbouring Publicans. The Oddness of her Figure & the Fame of her Fortune, selling, drew a vast Concourse of Spectators from the highest Rank of Quality, even to those of the lower Class of Life: those with many other Circumstances (too tedious to mention) render her an Object of Admiration to this & all future Ages.

Printed & Sold by Geo. Roberts, Engraver and Print-seller, near St. Pauls Church, in the Alley, facing St. Dunstons, Holborn

Published 24 June 1742 according to a List of Privileges.

MISCELLANEOUS PEDIGREES

FINCH of Dunstable, Co. Bedford

THE pedigree given in the following page is the result of information obtained from Bedfordshire Wills (now to be found in the Probate Registry at Birmingham), and it is necessary to comment on these Wills because of mis-statements appearing in various histories referring to the Brasses said to be in the Priory Church of St. Peter, Dunstable.

Thomas Finch, who died there in 1558, was a prosperous yeoman who stipulated in his Will that he was to be buried in the Parish churchyard of St. Peters. He dwelt then in High Street (called Watling Street). His son, Thomas Finch, carried on the business of a Draper and specially stipulated that he was to be buried "in the churchyard of St. Peters in Dunstable, nigh to the place where my father was buried." His wife, Elizabeth, lived for 20 years after her husband's death, and stipulated that she was to be buried "in Dunstable churchyard near to the place where my husband, Thomas Finch, was buried." In the records above referred to, including Haines' Monumental Brasses, and even Kelly's Directory, mention is made to Brasses to Thomas Finch 1558, Thomas Finch 1587, and Elizabeth Finch 1607. If there had been Brasses to these three in the church, fac-similes would have been included amongst the illustrations. St. Peter's was restored under the supervision of someone who would have been better employed in erecting public houses with glazed tile exteriors, and no care was taken of the Brasses which were then in this Church. To-day, such as remain are nailed or screwed in hap-hazard fashion on two wooden boards and, in order to identify them, it was necessary to refer to rubbings taken many years ago and now to be found amongst the Additional M S S. at the British Museum.

There is now no Brass to a Finch. There never was but one Finch Brass in that church. No Thomas Finch. No Elizabeth Finch, but there was in 1844 a rectangular brass plate to Richard Finch, citizen and Merchant Taylor of London, the son of the aforesaid Thomas and Elizabeth Finch, neither of whom were buried in the church. There is a very imperfect rubbing of this rectangular plate date 1640, but too imperfect to make a suitable illustration to this book.

Dunstable is on the borders of Hertfordshire, and some 10 miles N.W. of Redbourne, on Watling Street, and as Wills of members of the Finch family descended from Finch of Redbourne proved in the St. Albans Court show them to have resided within a mile or two of Dunstable, in all probability, the Finches in Bedfordshire are allied to that branch.

THOMAS FINCH, yeoman of Dunstable, was buried in the Churchyard there in 1558. His Will dated 20th September 1558 was proved on 13th October 1558. He

married twice (his second wife, Elizabeth, survived him). By his first wife, Alice, he had two sons :—

- (1) Thomas Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) Roger Finch.

Thomas Finch (son of Thomas and Alice) was a draper in Dunstable, and was buried in the Churchyard near his father on 26th December 1586. His Will dated 1st April 1586 was proved on 10th February following. By his wife, Elizabeth, who stipulated in her Will that she should be buried near her husband (W.D. 10-6-1607. W.P. 13-8-1607) he had five sons and a daughter. The five sons were :—

- (1) Edward Finch, who died before 1607 leaving issue.
- (2) Thomas Finch, who was living in 1607, and had a son, Thomas Finch, and three daughters—Christian, Rebecca, and Susanna.
- (3) John Finch, living in 1607.
- (4) Richard Finch, citizen and Merchant Taylor, of London, who died in January 1640 aged 81, and was buried in Dunstable Church. On the monumental brass tablet now lost he is referred to as a bachelor.
- (5) Roger Finch, who was a Mercer of Dunstable, and died in 1656. He was a man of considerable means, and his Will dated 27th December 1652, was proved (P.C.C. 170 Berkeley) on 21st May 1656. By his wife, Hannah, he had five children, viz :—Daniel, Thomas, Samuel, Hannah and Elizabeth.

FINCH of Co., Suffolk

According to the Subsidy Roll for 1327 there were many of the name Finch in the County of Suffolk. No less than 14 different householders in various parts of this County are recorded.

At Ipswich are numerous Wills dating back to the very earliest in that Registry. The first of the name Finch in the County of Kent, so far as we are helped by existing records, was a Herbert who, marrying the daughter and heiress of Finch of Finchden took the surname and Arms on succeeding to the estate through his marriage. There was no doubt a numerous family and probably each son of that marriage also had many sons who spread round into other counties, and this may account for many of the name in Suffolk who by 1327 had spread all over the County.

It is recorded, although there is no Finch pedigree in any of the visitations of the County, that the arms are identical. It naturally causes the enquiry—did the Finch family of Kent descend out of Suffolk, or the Suffolk family descend out of Kent ?

To refer to the Subsidy Roll we have William Finch at Hessel and Beighton (Beyton) ; Robert close by at Tostoke (Tostock) ; Walter Finch at Raydon cum Estone ; Robert at Ringshall ; Robert Finch at Ipswich, and Walter at Henley ; Adam Finch at Culford ; William at Inghan ; William Finch at Weston and John at Brampton. Simon Finch and Wilfrid Finch at Snape cum Friston ; Richard Finch of Fressingfield, and Henry Finch of Surthelmham. Here are three with the christian names Robert and William, and two called Walter.

The earliest Inquisition P.M. is of John Finch, 1603.

The earliest Suffolk Will in the Prerogative Court is that of the said John Finch dated 11th February 1602-3, and proved 10 days later (P.C.C. 16 Bolein). He had lands at Cretingham (where he lived) and also at Monewden and Framsdon, Foxhall and Bucklesham, and was succeeded by his son John. He mentions also his mother, Helen Finch. He describes himself as a yeoman, but must have had a considerable estate.

The next Will in the Prerogative Court (P.C.C. 127 Lawe) proved 15th November 1614 is of Thomas Finch of Swineland (Swiland) Co. Suffolk, gentleman, and he bore the Arms of Finch as of Kent. He had apparently fallen on troublous times as he died a prisoner in the King's Bench prison. He, nevertheless, had lands in Tuddenham, Swineland, and St. Margaret's Ipswich. His only son, Thomas, was to succeed him when 21 years of age, and meanwhile was left to the care of his wife Grace (sister of Thomas Danyell). The troublous times would appear to have been financial as his Will reads : " whereas now I am in divers troubles and executions," and, apparently, his wife had tended him in the prison as he says :—" her love shown to me in my extremitie of sickness and imprisonment."

Another Suffolk Will follows in the P.C.C. in 1627, and then there is a gap until the Will of John Finch of Little Bradley, yeoman, in 1721 (P.C.C. 120 Buckingham).

From the Ipswich Calendar the Suffolk branch were largely to be found in the districts of Hasketon and Tuddenham St. Martin (near to Woodbridge) as early as the reign of Richard III, and they were probably there in much earlier times. It is interesting to notice that members of the family were still at Tostock when the Subsidy Roll was made 200 years later (1524), and again in the Roll of 1568.

FINCH of London and Valentines in Essex

(Pedigree from Addl. M.S. 33919 fo. 31)

WILLIAM FINCH, of London, married Eleanor Jennings, and by her had besides a daughter, Martha, who was living in 1672, a son,—

HENRY FINCH, of Londonderry in Ireland, who married Mary Sadler of London, by whom he had four sons :—

- (1) William Finch, of London, Merchant (W.P. 1672) who married Hester, daug. and co-heiress of John Flesher, a London Merchant (W.P. 1683) had six sons, and a daughter, Anna Maria. These sons were :—
 1. Henry Finch, aged 5 in 1674.
 2. John Finch.
 3. George Finch, who died at Valentines, a large mansion in the Forest to the North of Ilford, Essex, in the year 1710. By his wife, Constance, who died in 1728 (W.P. 5-7-1728—P.C.C. 206 Brook), he had three sons, George, Thomas and William.
 4. Thomas Finch.
 5. Benjamin Finch.
 6. Samuel Finch.

- (2) Henry Finch, who married and had a son, William (father and son both living in 1672).
- (3) Thomas Finch (Adm. granted 1684).
- (4) George Finch, a Merchant, of London, who died in the Parish of St. Helen's in 1688, Adm. being granted to his widow, Mary, by whom he had three daughters, viz :—Mary, Sarah, and Selina, who was baptised at St. Helen's Bishopsgate, and who married Robert, Earl Ferrers, and died in 1762.

FINCH of Bishopsgate London and Westenhanger, Kent

JOSEPH FINCH, a Merchant of London, who lived in the Parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, where he was buried on 6th May 1670, married twice. Firstly, on 12th January 1640-1 at St. Botolph, and secondly, on 8th February 1658-9. His first wife was Joan Bolnest, by whom he had three sons and five daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) Joseph Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) John Finch.
- (3) Bolnest Finch, who died in infancy.

And the daughters of this marriage were :—

- (1) Ruth, b. 11-7-1646, mar : at St. Botolph on 29-11-1666, to John Nanfan ; (2) Elizabeth, who mar : in 1662 Richard Russell of St. Mary le Bow, Merchant Taylor ; (3) Theodora, b. 13-7-1648, who mar : in 1671 Charles Bancks of St. Vedast, Fetter Lane ; (4) Judith and (5) Sarah, b. 15-2-1649-50, who mar : in 1672 Thomas Boone.

JOSEPH FINCH (son of Joseph Finch by his wife Joan Bolnest) b. 21-8-1644, m. at St. Andrews, Holborn 1670, died in 1678. He purchased the Manor of Westenhanger, near Folkestone in Kent. He married Judith, daug. of William Horton, of the Vicarage, Halifax, Co. Yorks, by whom he had two sons and five daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Joseph Finch, who died an infant in 1671.
- (2) William Finch, of Westenhanger.

His daughters were :—

Theodora, Ruth, Judith, who mar : Edward Copley of Batley Hall, Co. Yorks in 1697, Caroline, who mar : Francis Lindley of Bowling Hall, Co. Yorks in 1695, and Elizabeth, b. 11-12-1672, who mar : at York Minster 17-4-1692, Thomas Ramsden, of Crowston, and High Feaneley.

The said Joseph Finch and his wife Judith both died at Westenhanger in October 1678, and were buried together the same day (24-10-1678) in St. Botolph Church, Bishopsgate.

CHAPTER 20

THE FINCH FAMILY IN AMERICA

THE ancestor of all of the name of Finch now in the United States of America would appear to be one Abraham Finch who is believed to have been born in the neighbourhood of Halifax in the West Riding of the County of York about the year 1585. He sailed for America in company with Governor John Winthrop in the year 1630, taking with him his family, of whom at least three sons are on record, viz : Abraham John, and Daniel.

Abraham Finch, Senr., settled in Watertown, Massachusetts, where he died in the year 1658. His son, Abraham, had been killed by the Indians in 1637.

John, son of Abraham Finch, was born about 1614, and died in the year 1703, leaving a son, Joseph Finch, born in 1640, who died in 1714. On 23rd November 1664 he married Elizabeth Austin by whom he had a son, Jonathan Finch, who was born about 1679. Jonathan Finch, by his wife Abigail, had a son, Nathan Finch, born in 1718, died in 1803. His son :—Jonathan Finch, was born on 30th November 1750, and died 25th April 1836. By his wife, Deborah Lockwood, he had a son :—

Reuben Finch, born 19th July 1772, died on the 28th April 1839, leaving a son :—

Reuben Reynolds Finch, born 24th September 1795, who died 3rd September 1865. He married on 13th February 1822 Deborah Brush by whom he had a son :—

Edward Brush Finch, born 18th September 1824, who died 30th August 1893. On 25th May 1846 he married Amelia Jones Frost, by whom he had a son :—

James Wells Finch, born 9th October 1853. On 31st October 1882, he married Winifred Florence Louisa Kip, by whom he had a son :—

James Kip Finch, born on 1st December 1883, Professor of Civil Engineering to Colombia University, and whose portrait is amongst the illustrations. Professor Finch married on 25th June 1910, Lolita Pauline Mollman, and their son, Edward Kip Finch, was born on the 7th July 1911.

Returning to Daniel Finch, who was born in England, and came over to America with his father, Abraham Finch, and his brother John above referred to, he married Elizabeth Tomson, by whom he had a son Nathaniel Finch, born in 1660, and died 1716. By his wife, Mary Hoadley, he had a son, Daniel Finch, born on the 19th May 1694. This Daniel Finch had a son, Daniel Finch, born on the 10th April 1719, who married Rebekah Bartholomew on the 20th April 1742, and their son, Gideon Finch, was born on the 23rd October 1743.

Gideon Finch, by his wife, Abigail Atkins, had a son, Samuel Finch, who was born on the 2nd December 1780, and died on the 22nd April 1841. By his wife, Sarah Barnes, he had a son :—

Lucius Finch, born 19th March 1813, and died on the 19th July 1898. He married on 18th February 1837, Charlotte Turner, by whom he had a son :—

Edward Lucius Finch, born 31st May 1845. He married on 12th February 1873, Annie Ridley Crane, and their son, the present Judge of the Supreme Court, Edward Ridley Finch, was born on the 15th November 1873. Judge Finch married, on 18th January 1913, Mary Livingston Delafield, by whom he has one son and two daughters, viz :—Edward Ridley Finch, born 31st August 1919 ; Noelle Delafield, born 25th December 1914, and, Anne Crane, born 13th March 1916.



GEORGE A. FINCH.



JAMES KIP FINCH.

CHAPTER 21

BIOGRAPHIES—PART 3

EDWARD FINCH-HATTON, Diplomatist, was fifth son of Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham. He graduated M.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge in 1718, and was elected M.P. for his university to every parliament that met between 1727 and 1764. He instituted, with his fellow-member, Thomas Townshend, the Members' Prizes in the University for essays in Latin prose. He had a long and varied diplomatic career. He was envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Sweden, and in a similar capacity was present at the Diet of Ratisbon, 1723. He went to the States-General in 1724. On 8th February 1724-5 he was appointed to the Court of Poland, and on 11th January 1739 to that of Russia. After his return home he was appointed groom of the royal bedchamber (1742); Master of the Robes (June 1757); and surveyor of the King's private woods in November 1760. He assumed in 1764 the additional name of Hatton under the Will of his Aunt, Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher, Viscount Hatton.

He died 16th May 1771. In 1746 he married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Palmer, of Wingham, Kent, by whom he had two sons, George (b. 30th June 1747), and John Emilius Daniel Edward (b. 19th May 1755), besides three daughters. George William, the eldest son of Edward Finch-Hatton's heir, George, succeeded as ninth Earl of Winchilsea and fourth Earl of Nottingham on the death of George, the eighth Earl in 1826.

The Revd. ROBERT POOLE FINCH, son of the Revd. Richard Finch, was born at Greenwich 3rd March 1723-4, entered Merchant Taylors' School in 1736, and was admitted a member of Peterhouse, Cambridge, whence he graduated B.A. 1743, M.A. 1747, D.D. 1772. He became a preacher of some eminence, published numerous sermons, and was also an author of a treatise upon oaths and perjury, which passed through many editions. In 1771 he was appointed Rector of St. Michael's, Cornhill, but resigned in 1784, on becoming Rector of St John the Evangelist, Westminster. In 1781 he was made Prebendary of Westminster, and retaining this appointment until his death, 18th May 1803, was buried in the Abbey.

He published in 1788 "Considerations upon the Use and Abuse of Oaths judically taken," which became a standard work among the publications of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The Revd. WILLIAM FINCH, Divine, son of William Finch, of Watford, Co. Herts was born 22nd July 1747, entered Merchant Taylors' School in 1754, and was elected thence in 1764 to St John's College, Oxford. He graduated B.C.L. in 1770, and D.C.L. in 1775. In 1797 he accepted the college living of Tackley, in the County and Diocese of Oxford, and in the same year was appointed Bampton lecturer. He took as his subject "The Objections of Infidel Historians and other writers against

Christianity." The lectures were published in 1797 together with a sermon preached before the university on 18th October 1795. Finch, who does not appear to have published anything else except a sermon preached before the Oxford Loyal Volunteers (Oxford 1798) died 8th June 1810, and was buried at Tackley.

Finch's mother had come to reside with him at the Rectory, and died there a few years before his death.

He made his Will on 4th July 1805 appointing Richard Cross Esquire, Banker, of Oxford, and Clement Pool Esqre, of White Cross Street, Cripplegate, London, as his executors. They proved the Will on 6th July 1810 (P.C.C. 367 Collingwood). Except for some gifts to the poor, and a legacy to his cousin, Elizabeth Ogilvie, wife of Alexander Ogilvie Esqre, of Hungerford, Wilts, he stipulated that all was to be realised and invested in an annuity for his wife.

GENERAL EDWARD FINCH, fourth son of Heneage, third Earl of Aylesford, by Lady Charlotte Seymour, daughter of Charles, sixth Duke of Somerset, was born on 26th April 1756. He went to Westminster as a queen's scholar in 1768. and was elected to Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1773, proceeding B.A. in 1777. He entered the army as a cornet in the 11th Dragoons on 27th December 1778, exchanged into the 20th Light Dragoons, and on 7th October 1779 was promoted lieutenant into the 87th regiment. He accompanied this regiment to the West Indies in January 1780, and served there and in America until he was promoted lieutenant and Captain into the 2nd or Coldstream Guards on 5th February 1783. On 11th May 1789 he was elected M.P. for Cambridge, a seat which he held for 30 years, and on 3rd October 1792, he was promoted Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel. He accompanied the Brigade of Guards to Flanders under General Lake in 1793, and served throughout the campaigns under the Duke of York with great credit. He was present at the actions of Caesar's Camp and Famars, in the famous engagement of Lincelles, and at the battles of Hondschoten, Lannoy, Turcoing, and round Tournay. He remained with his corps until the withdrawal of the British troops from the Continent in April 1795. He was promoted Colonel on 3rd May 1796, and nominated to command the light companies of the Guards in Coote's expedition to cut the sluices at Ostend, but was prevented from going by an accidental injury he had received the day before the expedition sailed. He was present with the Guards in the suppression of the Irish rebellion in 1798, and in 1799 commanded the 1st battalion of the Coldstreams in the expedition to the Helder and at the battles of Bergen. In the following year Finch was appointed to the command of the brigade of cavalry, consisting of the 12th and 26th Light Dragoons, which accompanied Sir Ralph Abercromby's army to Egypt. His regiments hardly came into action at all in the famous battles of March 1801, for the ground was not well adapted for cavalry, and he only covered the seige operations against Alexandria. He received the thanks of Parliament with the other generals, and on 1st January 1801 he was promoted Major-General. In 1803 he took command of the 1st Brigade of Guards, then stationed at Chelmsford, consisting of the 1st battalion of the Coldstreams and the 1st battalion 3rd Guards, and commanded that brigade

in the expedition to Denmark in 1809, and at the siege of Copenhagen. In 1804 he was appointed a groom of the bedchamber to the King ; on 25th April 1808 he was promoted Lieutenant-General, and on 3rd August 1808 appointed Colonel of the 54th Regiment. On 18th September 1809 he was transferred to the Colonelcy of the 22nd foot, and on 12th August 1819 he was promoted General. His seniority to Lord Wellington prevented him from being employed in the Peninsula, and he never saw service after 1809. He continued to sit in the House of Commons for Cambridge, through the influence of the Duke of Rutland until December 1819, when he accepted the Chiltern Hundreds, and throughout the thirty years of his parliamentary career, his seat was only once contested, in 1818. Finch, after 1819, entirely retired from public life, and he died on 27th October 1843 at the age of eighty-seven, being at the time of his death the sixth General in order of seniority in the English Army.

ROBERT FINCH, Antiquary, born in London on 27th December 1783, was the only son of Thomas Finch, F.R.S. He was educated for a short time at St Paul's School, and at eighteen was admitted at Balliol College, Oxford. He graduated B.A. 1806, M.A. 1809. He was ordained in 1807, and officiated at Maidstone and elsewhere. In 1814 he went abroad, visiting Portugal, France, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, and the Holy Land. For several years before his death he lived in Rome. He died at his residence, the Palazzo del Re di Prussia in Rome on 16th September 1830 from malarial fever. Finch had a great love of the fine arts, and studied antiquities and topography. He left his library, pictures, coins and medals to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, and his plate to Balliol College. He was a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and a contributor to the "Gentleman's Magazine" and other periodicals. He married in 1820, when in Italy, Maria, eldest daughter of Frederick Thomson of Kensington, but left no issue.

GEORGE WILLIAM FINCH-HATTON, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham, politician, was born at Kirby Hall, Northamptonshire on 19th May 1791. His father, George Finch-Hatton, of Eastwell Park near Ashford, Kent, M.P. for Rochester 1772-84, died 17th February 1823, having married in 1785 Lady Elizabeth Mary, eldest daughter of David Murray, second Earl of Mansfield. She died 1st June 1825. George William, the elder son, was educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, where he proceeded B.A. in 1812. On 13th October 1809, he became Captain in the Ashford regiment of Kentish local militia ; on 14th December 1819 commenced acting as a lieutenant of the Northamptonshire regiment of yeomanry, and on 7th September 1820 was named a deputy-lieutenant for the County of Kent. His cousin, George Finch, eighth Earl of Winchilsea, and fourth Earl of Nottingham, having died on 2nd August 1826, he succeeded to these peerages. He presided at a very large and influential meeting held on Pennenden Heath, Kent, on 10th October 1828, when strongly worded resolutions in favour of protestant principles were carried. In his place in the House of Lords he violently opposed almost every liberal measure which was brought forward. He was particularly noted as being almost the only English

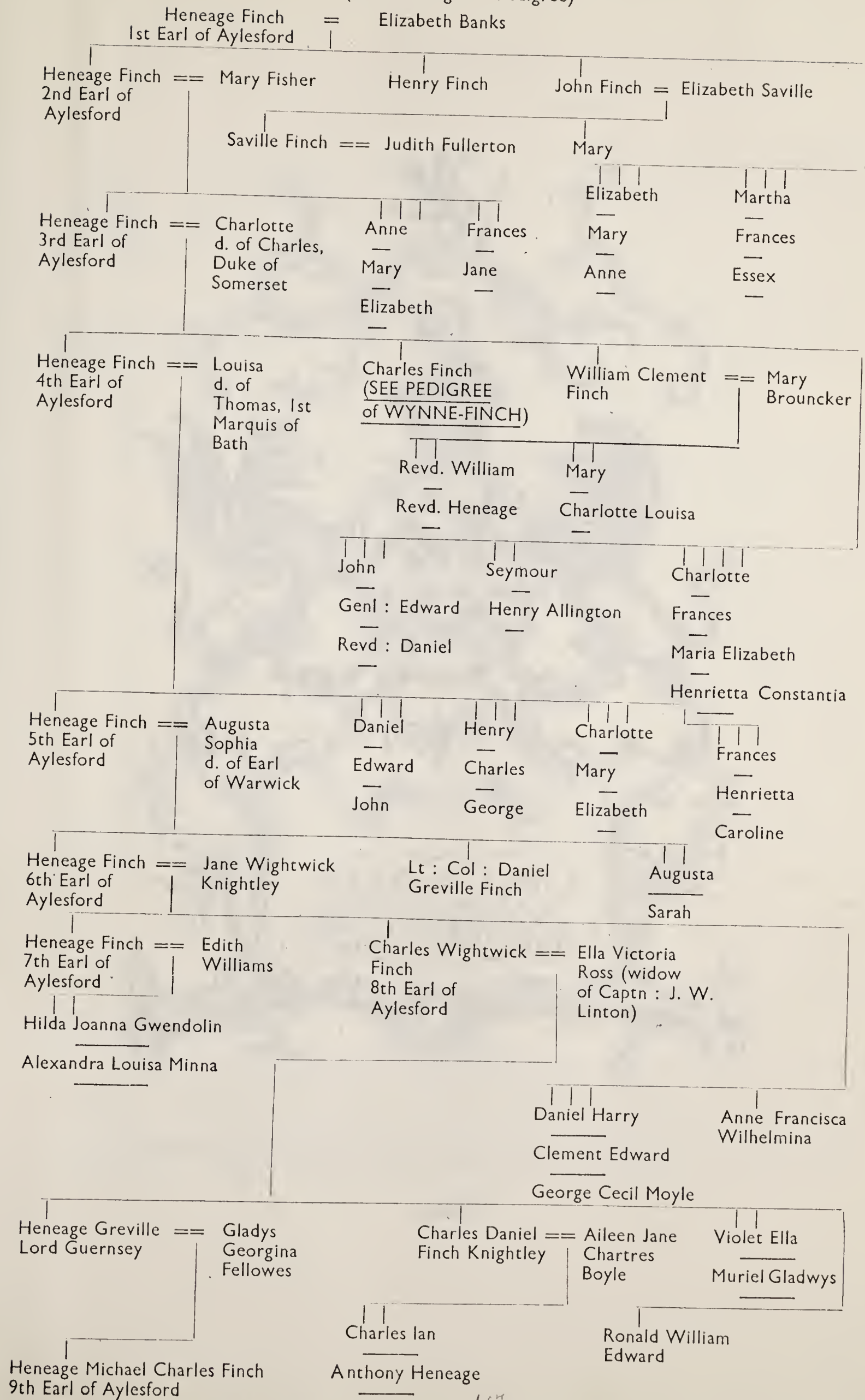
nobleman who was willing to identify himself with the Orange party in Ireland, and he was accustomed to denounce in frantic terms Daniel O'Connell, Maynooth, and the system of education carried out in that college. Occasionally he took the chair at May meetings at Exeter Hall, but his intemperate language prevented him from becoming a leader in evangelical politics. The Catholic Relief Bill of 1829 encountered his most vehement hostility, and ultimately led to a duel with the Duke of Wellington. Lord Winchilsea, in a letter to the Secretary of King's College, London, wrote that the Duke "under the cloak of some coloured show of zeal for the protestant religion, carried on an insidious design for the infringement of our liberties and the introduction of popery into every department of the State." The Duke replied with a challenge. The meeting took place in Battersea Fields on 21st March 1829, the Duke being attended by Sir Henry Hardinge, and his opponent by Edward Boscawen, Viscount Falmouth. The duke fired and missed, whereupon Winchilsea fired in the air and then apologised for the language of his letter. He was a very frequent speaker in the Lords, and strenuously opposed the Reform Bill and other Whig measures. He was gazetted lieutenant-Colonel commandant of the East Kent regiment of yeomanry 20th December 1830 ; named a deputy-lieutenant for the County of Lincoln 26th September 1831, and created a D.C.L. of Oxford 10th June 1834. He died at Haverholme Priory, near Sleaford, Lincolnshire 8th January 1858. His cousin, the 8th Earl, being apparently incensed at the adoption of the name Hatton, to which he refers frequently in his Will, left Burley-on-the-Hill to his kinsman and adopted son, George Finch, and it thus is no longer the seat of the Earls of Winchilsea and Nottingham.

FRANCIS OLIVER FINCH, water colour painter, son of Francis Finch, a Merchant in Friday Street, Cheapside, London, was born 22nd November 1802, and spent his boyhood at Stone, near Aylesbury. When twelve years of age, at that time fatherless, he was placed under John Varley, with whom he worked altogether five years, a friend having paid a premium of £200. Among his earliest patrons was Lord Northwick, a patron of fine arts, who employed the youth in making views of his mansions and grounds. Some time after leaving his master's studio, the same friend who had assisted in placing him there afforded him the benefit of a tour through Scotland. After his return he doubted for some time whether he should continue the practice of landscape or enter as a student at the Royal Academy. He joined Sass's life academy and produced several portraits, but circumstances drawing him back to landscape-painting, he became a candidate for admission into the then newly formed Society of Painters in Water Colours. On 11th February 1822 he was elected an associate, and on 4th June 1827, a member of that Society. He first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1817, at that period living at 44 Conduit Street, Bond Street. He married in the spring of 1837, and resided for some time in Charlotte Street, and afterwards in Argyle Square, Euston Road. On 10th October 1861 Finch lost the use of his limbs, and died 27th August 1862. He possessed a fine voice, and was a thorough musician as well as a poet. He printed a collection of sonnets entitled "An Artist's Dream."

Among his best works may be mentioned " Garmallon's Tomb," oil (1820) ; " View of Loch Lomond " (1822) ; " View on the River Tay " (1827) ; " View of the College of Aberdeen " (1832) ; scene from Milton's " Comus " (1835) ; " Alpine Scene, Evening " (1838) ; " A Watch Tower " (1840) ; " The Thames near Cookham Berkshire " (1845) ; " Ruined Temple, Evening " (1852) ; " Rocky Glen, Evening " (1855) ; " The Curfew—Gray's Elegy " (1860) ; " Pastoral Retreat " (1861) ; and " Moonlight over the Sea " (1862). His portrait has been engraved by A. Roffe.

THE AYLESFORD PEDIGREE

(See Nottingham Pedigree)





CHAPTER 22

THE AYLESFORD PEDIGREE

AS will be seen by reference to the pedigree of the Earls of Nottingham, the second son of the Lord Chancellor was Heneage Finch who was created Earl of Aylesford. He was younger brother of Daniel Finch, the 2nd Earl of Nottingham.

HENEAGE FINCH, 1st Earl of Aylesford (see Biography), died on the 22nd July 1719. He married on 16th May 1678 Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Banks, Bart, of Aylesford in Kent. She died on 1st September 1743, and was buried near her husband at Aylesford. There were nine children of the marriage, three sons and six daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Finch, 2nd Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (2) Henry Finch, d. 14th July 1757.
- (3) John Finch, who was M.P. for Maidstone, and died on 1st June 1736. He married on 13th April 1726, Elizabeth, daug. and heiress of John Saville, of Methley in Yorkshire, Esquire (she died on 28th October 1767), having had one son, Saville Finch, M.P. for Malton, who was buried at Thrybergh, near Rotherham, on 20th September 1788. He married Judith, daug. of John Fullerton, Esquire. The daughters were :
(1) Elizabeth, who died on 26th February 1757, having married on 21st December 1703, Robert, Lord Bingley, (2) Mary, who died unmarried, February 1734-5 ; (3) Anne, who married on 18th July 1700, William Legge, Earl of Dartmouth, and died on 13th November 1751, and (4) Martha, d. January 1760, unm. (5) Frances, who married on 16th October 1716 Sir John Bland, Bart, and died in 1759, and (6) Essex, d. unm. 1744.

HENEAGE FINCH, 2nd Earl of Aylesford, was born in 1683, and died on 20th June 1757. He was Master of the Jewel Office. He married on 9th December 1712, Mary, daug. and heiress of Sir Clement Fisher, Bart, of Packington Hall, Co. Warwick. She died in May 1740 at Bath. His Lordship, the 2nd Earl, was buried at Albury in Surrey. He had one son, Heneage Finch, who succeeded as 3rd Earl of Aylesford (of whom presently), and five daughters, viz :—(1) Anne, b. 17-10-1713, d. at John Street, Berkeley Square, 5-9-1793 ; (2) Mary, b. 1-3-1716, m. Nov. 1736, William, Viscount Andover ; (3) Elizabeth, b. 28-11-1717, d. at John Street, Berkeley Square, 19-12-1793 ; (4) Frances, b. 4-2-1720, m. 2-4-1741, Sir William Courtenay, Viscount Courtenay, of Powderham, Co. Devon, and d. December 1716, and (5) Jane, b. 1731. d. 1736.

HENEAGE FINCH, 3rd Earl of Aylesford, Knight of the Shire for Co. Leicester, 1739, was born on 6th November 1715, and died on 9th May 1777. On 6th October 1750, he married Charlotte, daug. of Charles, 6th Duke of Somerset, by his second wife, Charlotte, daug. of Daniel, Earl of Winchilsea and Nottingham. (She died on 15th February 1805), having had eight sons and four daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Finch, 4th Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (2) Charles Finch (SEE PEDIGREE OF WYNNE-FINCH).
- (3) Adml. William Clement Finch, R.N., of Albury Place, Co. Surrey, M.P. for Surrey 1791 ; b. 27th May 1753, d. October 1794. He married on 2nd August 1789 Mary, sister to Henry Brouncker, of Boveridge, Co. Dorset (she married secondly William Strode of Northaw, Co. Herts). They had two sons and two daughters. The sons were :—Revd. William Finch, b. 14-9-1791, ob. unm. 1850, and the daughters were :—Mary and Charlotte Louisa.
- (4) John Finch, b. 22-5-1755, killed in America 1777, s.p.
- (5) Gen : Edward Finch, b. 26-4-1756, ob. 27-10-1843.
- (6) Revd. Daniel Finch, Prebendary of Gloucester, b. 3-4-1757, ob. October 1840.
- (7) Seymour Finch, b. 1758, ob. 1794.
- (8) Henry Allington Finch, b. 1760, ob. 1780, and the daughters were :—
 - (1) Charlotte, m. 14-8-1777, Henry, 12th Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire ;
 - (2) Sarah Frances, m. 24-9-1782, George 3rd Earl of Dartmouth ;
 - (3) Maria Elizabeth, ob. unm. 1848, and
 - (4) Henrietta Constantia, ob. unm. 1814.

HENEAGE FINCH, 4th Earl of Aylesford, was Lord Steward of the Household. He was born 4th July 1751, and died 21st October 1812. He married on 18th November 1781 Louisa, daug. of Thomas, 1st Marquess of Bath. (She died 28th December 1832). There were thirteen children of the marriage, seven sons and six daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Finch, 5th Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (2) Daniel Finch, Barrister-at-Law, b. 1789, ob 1868.
- (3) Edward Finch, b. 1792, ob 1830.
- (4) Gen : John Finch, C.B., b. 1793, m. 1835, Katherine Ellice.
- (5) Henry Finch, Lieut., R.N., b. 1795, ob 1820.
- (6) Revd. Charles Finch, b. 1799.
- (7) George Finch, ob infans.

The daughters were :—

- (1) Charlotte, to whom King George III and his Queen stood sponsors, m. 22-1-1823 Revd. Charles Palmer, Rector of Lighthorn, Co. Warwick ;
- (2) Mary, ob 1823 ;
- (3) Elizabeth 1879 ;
- (4) Frances, ob 12-7-1886, aged 95 ;
- (5) Henrietta, ob 1828 ;
- (6) Caroline, ob 1821.

HENEAGE FINCH, 5th Earl of Aylesford, F.S.A., b. 24th April 1786, m. on 23rd April 1821, Augusta Sophia, daug. of George, 2nd Earl of Warwick, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Finch, 6th Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (2) Lt.-Col. Daniel Greville Finch, b. 26-4-1827, ob 22-2-1882, and the two daughters were :—Augusta, who married the 5th Earl of Dartmouth, and Sarah, who died unm. 24-4-1850.



LOUISA, COUNTESS OF AYLESFORD.

HENEAGE FINCH, 6th Earl of Aylesford, was born 24th December 1824, and died on 10th January 1871. He married on 7th May 1846, Jane Wightwick, only child of John W. Knightley, of Offchurch Bury, Co. Warwick. (She died 21-10-1911), by whom he had five sons and a daughter, Anne Francisca Wilhelmina, who married on 9-8-1875, Charles James Murray, of Loch Carron, Co. Ross, grandson of George, 5th Earl of Dunmore. The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Finch, 7th Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (2) Charles Wightwick Finch, 8th Earl of Aylesford, of whom presently.
- (3) Capt. Daniel Harry Finch, b. 5-6-1858, ob 17-12-1890.
- (4) Lieut. Clement Edward Finch, b. 26-8-1861, ob 4-10-1895.
- (5) George Cecil Moyle Finch, ob infans.

HENEAGE FINCH, 7th Earl of Aylesford, D.L. for Co. Warwick, was born on 21st February 1849, and died in Texas on 13th January 1885. He married on 8th January 1871 Edith, daug. of Col. Peers Williams, M.P. of Temple House, Berks, by whom he had two daughters : (1) Hilda Joanna Gwendolin, b. 25-7-1872, m. 12-4-1898, Lt.-Col. Sir Malcolm Donald Murray, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.I.E., late Seaforth Highlanders. (She died 13-8-1931), and (2) Alexandra Louisa Minna (Queen Alexandra's Godchild) b. 9-7-1875, m. (1) Philip Samuel Danby, and m. (2) Robert William Emmet. His Lordship the 7th Earl dying without male issue was succeeded by—

CHARLES WIGHTWICK FINCH, 8th Earl of Aylesford, J.P. and D.L., born 7th June 1851. He married (1) on 4th February 1873, the Hon : Georgiana Agnes Bagot, daug. of William, 3rd Lord Bagot. She died s.p., and His Lordship married secondly, Ella Victoria, daug. of John Ross, of Benena Abbots, and widow of Capt. James Wingfield Linton, by whom he had three sons and two daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) Heneage Greville Finch, Viscount Guernsey, of whom presently.
- (2) Charles Daniel Finch-Knightley, of Offchurch Bury, Leamington, Military Secretary to the Governor-General of Australia, 1918-20, J.P., Co. Warwick. He assumed the additional name of Knightley in 1912. He was born 23-8-1886, and mar. 7-2-1918, Aileen Jane Chartres Boyle, by whom he has two sons, Charles Ian Finch-Knightley, b. 2-11-1918, and Anthony Heneage Finch-Knightley, b. 27-4-1920.
- (3) Ronald William Edward Finch, b. 28-9-1889, m. 19-7-1920, Grace Edith, daug. of W. Langley, Esq. and the daughters were :—Violet Ella, m. 14-12-1904, Major Eustace Crawley, of the 12th Lancers, killed in action, 2-11-1914 (of 5 Lancaster Gate Terrace, W.), and Muriel Gladwys, m. 27-7-1901, William Worthington Worthington, J.P., of Maple Hayes. near Lichfield, Staffs.

HENEAGE GREVILLE FINCH, Viscount Guernsey, b. 2nd June 1883, was Capt. in the Warwickshire Yeomanry, and Irish Guards, and was killed in action in the Great War on 14th September 1914. He married on 11th June 1907, the Hon. Gladys Georgiana Fellowes, 2nd daug. of 2nd Baron de Ramsey, by whom he had one son,—

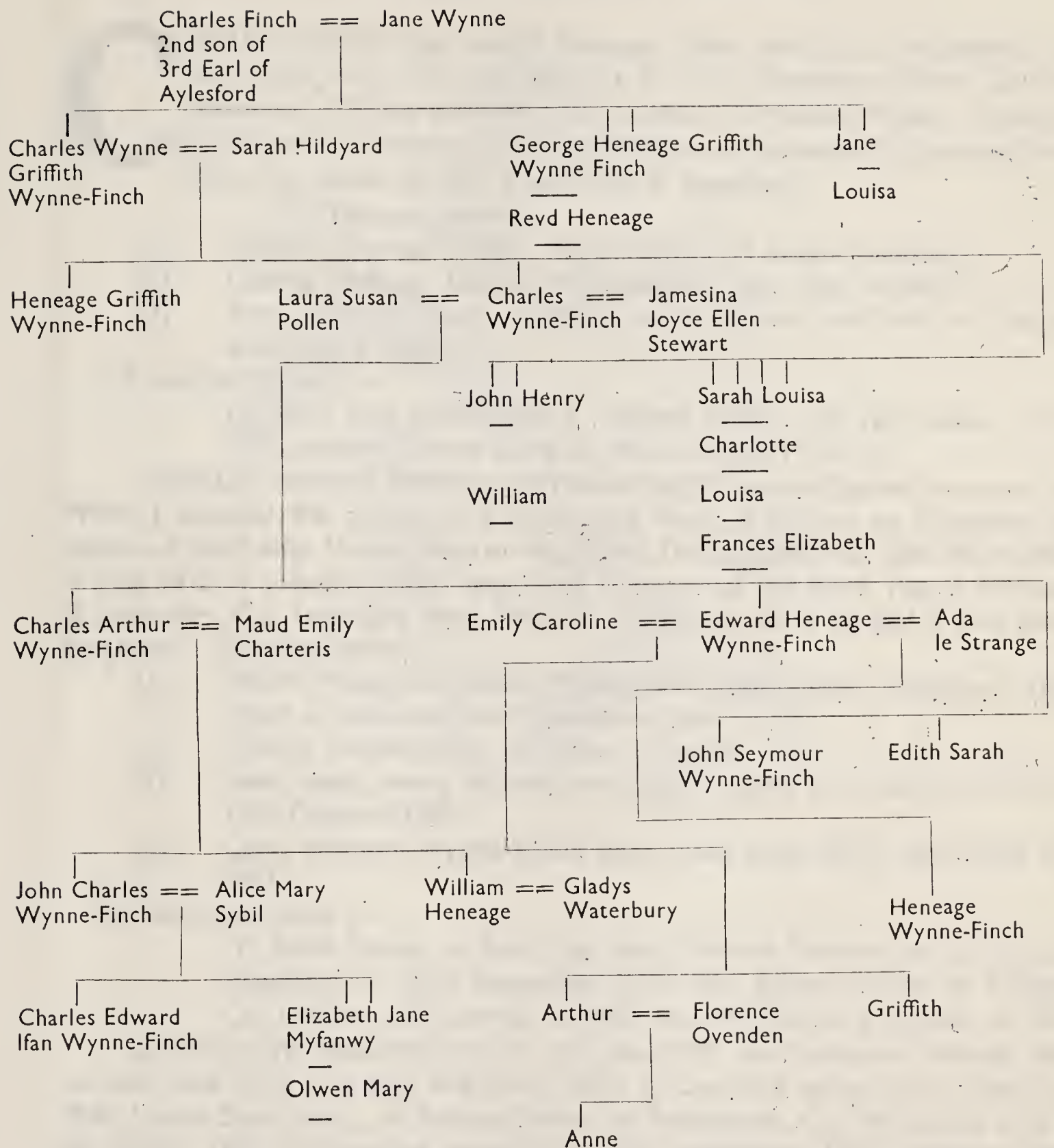
HENEAGE MICHAEL CHARLES FINCH, 9th Earl of Aylesford (the present Earl), born on 31st October 1908.

From "The Gentleman's Magazine" 1794. (obituary notice).

Hon : William Clement Finch of Albury Place, Co. Surrey, second brother to the Earl of Aylesford. He was born May 27th 1753 : appointed Captain and afterwards Rear Admiral in the Royal Navy and elected M.P. for Surrey 1791. In the American War he captured a French Indiaman, and after the peace purchased the Mansion and Estate of Albury of his brother the present Earl of Aylesford whose ancestor purchased it in the last century. Previous to that it had been one of the retirements of the Earl of Arundel who took great delight in it. The grandfather and great-grandfather of this gentleman lived there very much and in great hospitality : his father who had the Packington estate in Warwickshire in his father's lifetime and had been used to reside there did not quit it on coming into possession of Albury and it was deserted until this gentleman made the purchase. He repaired and much improved the house and made some very judicious alterations in the grounds adding several plantations. The park is small but consists of beautiful grounds through which runs a trout stream and being a sandy soil is always dry and pleasant. There are some very noble oaks and beeches in the park and some oaks of great antiquity but of no other value than from their being an ornament which in this place they are in high degree. He employed himself in farming his grounds till about two years before his death, trying various experiments a matter of great service to his country. A mere farmer cannot risk the expense of trial but if a gentleman succeeds they will follow his example. He married Miss Brouncker a lady of considerable fortune from the West Indies by whom he had five children: (1) a son who died an infant. (2) William. (3) Mary. (4) Heneage. (5) a daughter born about the time of his death. He died suddenly in an apoplectic fit.

THE WYNNE-FINCH PEDIGREE

(see Aylesford Pedigree)



THE WYNNE-FINCH PEDIGREE

CHARLES FINCH, 2nd son of Heneage Finch, 3rd Earl of Aylesford, was born 24th May, 1752 and died on the 17th December 1819. On 28th December 1778, he married Jane, daughter of Watkin Wynne, heiress of the Wynnes of Voelas, and of the Griffiths of Cefnamwlch (she died Novr. 1811), by whom he had 3 sons and 2 daughters.

The sons were:—

- (1) Charles Wynne Griffith Wynne-Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) George Heneage Griffith Wynne-Finch, who died in 1867.
- (3) Revd. Heneage Finch, Chaplain to the Queen, and Vicar of Oakham, who died in 1865.

The daughters were:—

- (1) Jane, who married Revd. Thomas Cooke, and (2) Louisa, who in 1822, married Count D'Aglié, the Sardinian Minister.

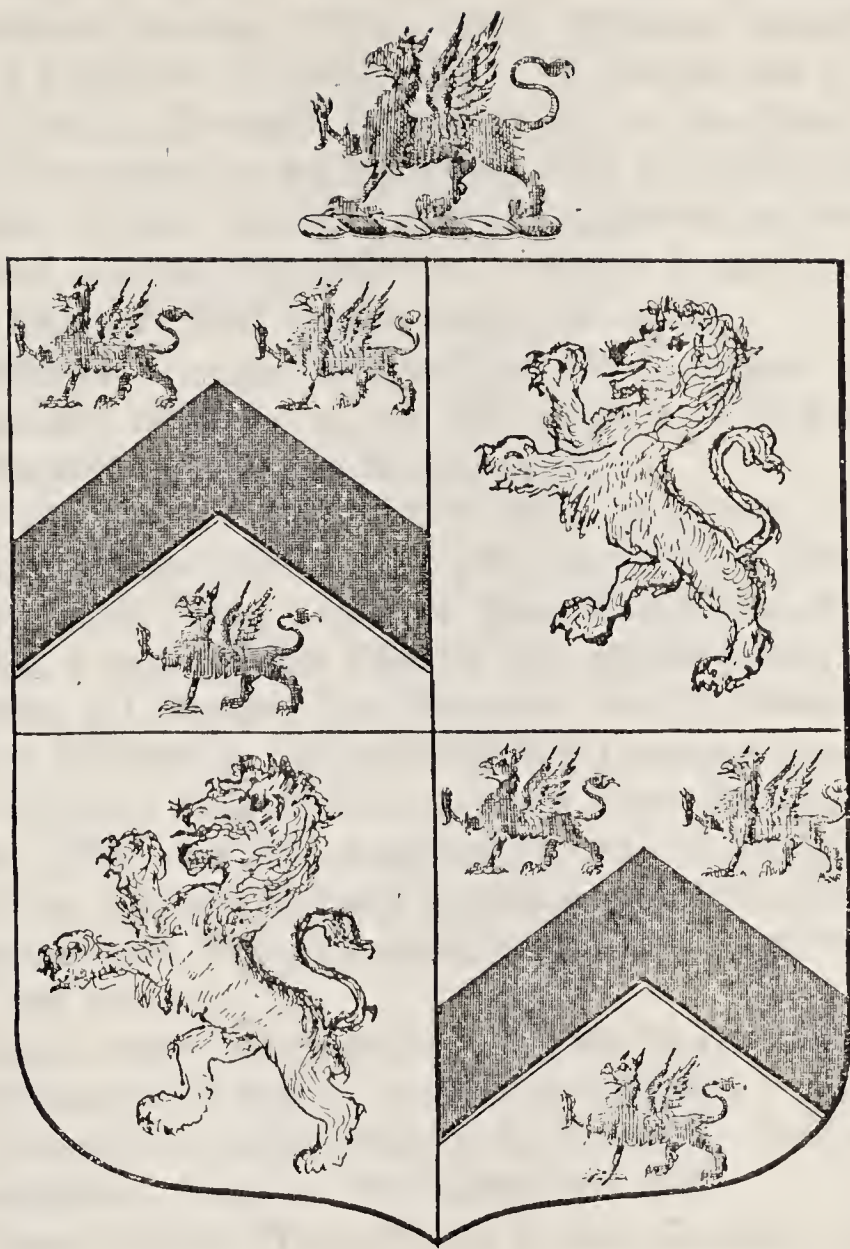
CHARLES WYNNE GRIFFITH WYNNE-FINCH (son of Charles Finch and Jane Wynne) assumed the additional surname and Arms of Wynne on inheriting the estates of this family. He was born on 4th March 1780, and died on 22nd March 1865. In May 1812 he married Sarah, daug : and coheiress of the Revd. Henry Hildyard, of Stokesley, Co. York (she died 19th May 1860), by whom he had 4 sons and 4 daughters. The sons were:—

- (1) Major Heneage Griffith Wynne-Finch, born 19th September 1816, killed at Inkerman 5th November 1854.
- (2) Charles Wynne-Finch, of whom presently.
- (3) Revd. John Henry Wynne-Finch, D.D., born 31st March 1819, died 17th October 1893.
- (4) Capt. William Wynne-Finch, born 22nd April 1832, died 22nd May 1863.

The daughters were:—

- (1) Sarah Louisa, m. 24th May 1842, Thomas Somers Cocks, M.P.; (2) Charlotte, m. 29th September 1846, John Robert Gadley of Killégar, Co. Leitrim ; (3) Louisa, d. 1902, and (4) Frances Elizabeth, d. 1907.

CHARLES WYNNE-FINCH, J.P., D.L., was M.P. for Carnarvon. He was born on 14th June 1815, and died 3rd March 1874. He married twice (1) on 15th June 1840, Louisa Susan, dau : of Richard Pollen, of Rodbourne, Co. Wilts. She died on 7th March 1851. He married secondly on 7th September 1852, Jamesina Joyce Ellen, dau : and coheiress of John Stewart, M.P., and widow of Henry L' Estrade Styleman Le Strange, of Hunstanton (she died 6th July 1892). By his first wife he had three sons and a daughter, Edith Sarah, b. 5th October 1849, and died 18th July 1858. The sons were:—



(1) Major John Seymour Wynne-Finch, b. 16th February 1845, d. unm. 22nd January 1906.

(2) Charles Arthur Wynne-Finch, of whom presently.

(3) Edward Heneage Wynne-Finch, of whom presently.

CHARLES ARTHUR WYNNE-FINCH, of Voelas, was J.P. and D.L. for Carnarvon, and M.P. for Co. Denbigh. He was Lt.-Col. in the Scots Guards. He was born on 6th April 1841, and died on 4th December 1903. On 29th October 1889 he married Maud Emily, dau : of Col. The Hon. Richard Charteris, by whom he had 3 sons,—

(1) John Charles Wynne-Finch, of whom presently.

(2) Charles Richard Wynne-Finch, ob infans.

(3) William Heneage Wynne-Finch, M.C., Major Scots Guards, b. 18th January 1893, and m. on 17th October 1929, Gladys, dau : of John L. Waterbury, of New Jersey, U.S.A.

JOHN CHARLES WYNNE-FINCH, M.C., of Voelas, is J.P. for Denbigh and Carnarvon. He was born 31st August 1891, and m. on 17th February 1914 Alice Mary Sybil, dau : of the Hon : and Revd. Edward Carr Glyn, Bishop of Peterborough, by whom he has a son, Charles Edward Ifan Wynne-Finch, b. 11th January 1929, and two daughters (1) Elizabeth Jane Myfanwy, and (2) Olwen Mary.

EDWARD HENEAGE WYNNE-FINCH (youngest son of Charles Wynne-Finch by his wife Laura Susan Pollem) married twice. By his first wife (who died on 28th September 1873), Ada, the daughter of Henry L'Estrade Styleman Le Strange of Hunstanton, Co. Norfolk, he has a son Heneage Wynne-Finch, M.A. b. 30th April 1871. By his second wife, Emily Caroline, daug : of George Marwood of Busby Hall, Yorkshire, he had two sons :—

(1) Capt. Arthur Wynne-Finch, J.P. for North Riding, Co. Yorks, b. 15th October 1878, and m. in 1926 Florence, dau : of the Very Revd. Charles Thomas Ovenden, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin, by whom he has a daughter, Anne, b. 4th September 1927.

(2) Major Griffith Wynne-Finch, b. 16th October, 1880.



**FINCH OF REDBOURNE, ST. ALBANS, WATFORD, AND RED HEATH
CO. HERTS. WILLESSEN, CO. MIDDLESEX, KILCOLEMAN,
CO. TIPPERARY, &c.**



BRANCH of the Finch family resided at Redbourne in the County of Hertford early in the 14th century, and many members of this branch have been interred in Redbourne Church. During the early years of the reign of King Edward III, the men of Redbourne were publicly assessed to tallage and were publicly forced to swear to submit thereto. They, however, resented the levy of the tax, and threatened with death those who sought to distraint them. It is recorded that they beat the Chamberlain's "bedel" upon his making the attempt, and that one of them who had struck the "bedel" was captured and put in fetters. The tax was finally paid in respect to the King's fifteenths. It is recorded that amongst those so taxed were John Fynch and Alice Fynch.

The Arms of Finch of Redbourne are recorded in the Visitation of 1572, and also in the Visitation of Surrey in 1623 by Walter Finch, a member of the family who had left his native County and settled in Croydon Co. Surrey.

The Crest and Arms recorded are :—

Crest—A griffin passant sable, armed Or, gorged with a coronet argent, a cinquefoil for difference.

Arms—Argent, a chevron engrailed between 3 griffins passant sable, a cinquefoil Or for difference. An illustration of the crest and arms will be found facing this page.

In later years many descendants of the Finch family of Redbourne have, apparently finding some difficulty in tracing their descent to the satisfaction of the Heralds, obtained new grants of arms. All the members of the family whose names appear in the following pedigree are entitled to bear the arms &c., which are recorded above, and these arms being identical with those of known descendants of Herbert dicta Finch in the County of Kent show that the branch is of the same origin.

From Redbourne the family have spread through the County of Hertford and the Wills in the St. Albans registry are very numerous.

In Redbourne many of them are referred to as of Wood End where they were living at least as far back as the reign of Richard III, and probably much earlier.

From a study of the records of the County of Suffolk, it is probable that younger sons of the original stock in Sussex and Kent settled around Bury St. Edmunds and Redbourne about the same time (early in the 14th century).

The first name on the pedigree of this branch which is printed in these pages is one Thomas Finch who died in the reign of King Henry VI, and in his Will proved in 1433 he desired to be buried in Redbourne Church.

One of the younger sons of John Finch of Redbourne (ob. 1524) moved to Watford, and from the records of the family in that town, they would appear to have set themselves resolutely to make money by establishing quite an important tannery in the neighbourhood.

Three generations later one of the descendants of the first at Watford moved in the neighbouring County of Middlesex where he established himself in the same industry, but, in his Will, wishing to be interred where his parents had been buried, stipulated that he should be taken to and buried in Watford churchyard. All the entries relating to the Finch family have been extracted from the Watford Registers, but there is no record of his burial there. It does not follow that it did not take place there, however, but he was very probably interred at Kingsbury near Willesden in the churchyard of the Parish Church of St. Andrews. The Registers there have been examined but the Bishop's Transcripts are missing (prior to 1805) and the Registers prior to 1732 have been lost or destroyed.

The Finch family in Willesden and Kingsbury prospered and soon owned extensive estates in that and in neighbouring districts. Dolley's Hill belonged to them until sold to become the well-known Gladstone Park.

The head of this branch of the family is Lt.-Col. Lionel Hugh Knightley Finch, who was awarded the D.S.O. in the Great War, and whose portrait appears in close proximity to these lines. It will be noticed that his grandfather's brother obtained a new grant of arms.

Going back to Watford the fortunes of the family fluctuated, but were reinforced through Colonel Simon Finch (son of Ralph of Watford and nephew of Edward of Willesden) dying without issue and leaving his extensive possessions to his nephew. The alliance of his father, Ralph Finch, with the Baldwins of Watford, and his brother, William, brought other properties to this branch, and after the marriage of Charles Finch of Furnivals Inn, London, to Mary Baldwin, Red Heath came into the Finch family accompanied by Ockwells, Co Berks.

Ralph Finch of Chester, nephew of Colonel Simon Finch, was ordained by him in his Will (dated 8th January 1684-5) to be his sole heir, but the uncle lived the longer, and consequently on the death of the Colonel the following year (1686) his nephew Edward Finch succeeded and settled at Kilcoleman, Co Tipperary.

As will be seen by the pedigrees, descendants of all these sub-branches still remain in various parts of the country.

It has been a difficult task to piece this pedigree together. There were many errors in the earlier editions of Burkes Landed Gentry, and in the pedigree appearing in Cussan's History of Hertfordshire. Unfortunately, so far as the pedigrees in the early editions of Landed Gentry are concerned, this is by no means an isolated case. A new edition will appear this year and in this it is hoped the numerous errors of the early editions will be corrected.

The following interesting record appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine, 18th January 1732 :—

Death—Mr. Isaac Finch of Watford in Hertfordshire died aged 104. He followed the trade of leatherseller 80 years, and died worth £15,000.

This is probably the Isaac Finch of Watford "Leather dresser" whose will was made 10th February 1728-9 and proved in P.C.C. (11 Bedford) 20th January 1731-2. In his will he leaves Susanna, his wife, £1500 "to be paid out of my stock-in-trade," and he leaves portions of his estate to his daughters, Hannah Pocock and Esther Halford. He had outlived two daughters and his (apparently) only son, as he left a goodly portion of his estate to Mary Finch—his son's widow, and her daughter Mary. The daughter-in-law, Mary Finch, died in 1736 (W.P. 21st May 1736—P.C.C. 106 Derby) leaving her estate to her daughter, Mary Finch.

Cussan's History of Hertfordshire has a pedigree of Finch of Red Heath, said to have been compiled from Wills, Parochial Registers, Deeds &c in the possession of Henry Charles Finch Esqre. The father of the first of this branch to settle in Willesden is shown as having had three wives, the last of the three being Rose Edlin who, actually was the only wife of William Finch of Watford. She survived her husband and her will proved many years after his death, shows that the children recorded as being by his first wife (name unknown) were in reality her children. The records of the baptisms of these children are all at Watford and of subsequent date to that of her marriage at Harrow in 1570.

Separate Chapters with Key Pedigrees follow for (1) Finch of Redbourne and Watford ; (2) Finch of Willseden ; (3) Finch of Kilcoleman, and (4) Finch of Red Heath.

Note.

Extract from the Kent and Sussex Courier, Tunbridge Wells, 22nd August 1913.

"Mr. Henry Finch, of Dollis Hill, Willesden, has recently died. Dollis Hill is "now the great Gladstone Park maintained by the Willesden District Council. "Sir Bradley Marjoribanks followed the Finch family, then Lord Aberdeen and "W. E. Gladstone used to spend week-ends there. Sir Hugh Gilzean-Reid (News-paper proprietor) also lived there."

In Croydon Church Co., Surrey there was, until 1859 a monumental brass to Elizabeth wife of Samuel Finch, Vicar of Croydon. Anderson says the brass was on a black marble ledger stone and states "the brass, with five others, was stolen by the workmen employed in the restoration of 1859.

The wording of the inscription was :—

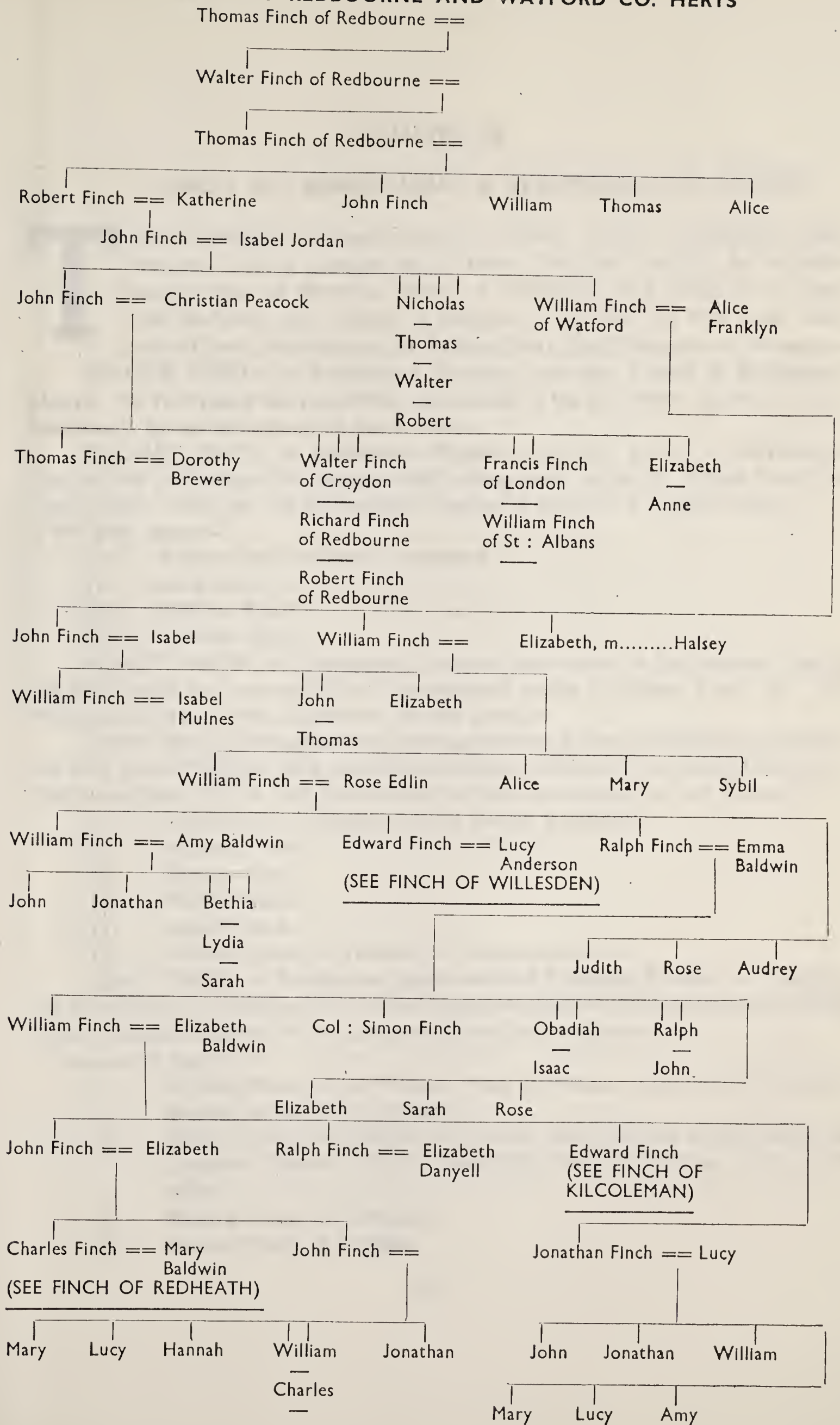
Elizabeth daughter of John Kynge and Clemence his wife the wyfe of Samuell Fynche unto whom she bore three sonnes and two daughters and deceasinge the XVIIth daye of November here lyeth buried Anno Dni 1589 aetatis suae 21.

The Reverend Samuel Finch was collated to the vicarage of Croydon by Archbishop Parker 26 May 1581 and again by the king on lapse 28 February 1603. Some of the historians make two distinct persons but the entries in the registers of the baptisms of his children which are all in his hand prove to the contrary.

Monumental Brass in Preston Church near Faversham Kent—

This is illustrated and is the brass of Benet, wife of Thomas Finch. The effigy is 23 inches by 8 inches and shows a lady in profile wearing a French hood, ruff and gown with embroidered petticoat. She was daughter and heiress of William Maycott of Faversham, gent and related to Anthony Maycott of Hoath the father of Sir Cavaliero Maycott who was buried at Reculver. The surname Maycott has now become corrupted into Mockett.

FINCH OF REDBOURNE AND WATFORD CO. HERTS



CHAPTER 25

FINCH OF REDBOURNE & WATFORD, CO. HERTS

THOMAS FINCH, of Redbourne, Co. Herts, Esquire, descended from Nicholas Finch, a younger son of Henry Finch als Herbert, by his wife Parnell, dau : of Nicholas Allard, of Winchilsea (see Pedigree of Finch alias Herbert), was buried in Redbourne Church. His Will dated 26th July 1433 was proved in the St. Albans Court (fo: 20 Stoneham). His son,—

WALTER FINCH, of Redbourne, Esquire, was also buried in Redbourne Church. His Will dated 8th June 1465, was proved in the St. Albans Court (fo : 112 Stoneham). By his wife, Joan, he had a son,—

THOMAS FINCH, of Redbourne, Esquire, was also buried in Redbourne Church. His Will dated 3rd October 1485, was proved in the St. Albans Court on 17th October 1485 (fo : 48 Walingford). He had 4 sons and a daughter Alice.

The sons were :—

- (1) Robert Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) John Finch.
- (3) William Finch.
- (4) Thomas Finch.

ROBERT FINCH, of Redbourne, Esquire, was buried in Redbourne Church. His Will dated 1st January 1512-13, was proved in the St. Albans Court (fo : 152 Walingford). By his wife Katherine, he had a son,—

JOHN FINCH, of Redbourne, Esquire, who was buried in Redbourne Church. His Will dated 7th April 1524, proved on 4th June 1524 in the St. Albans Court (fo : 188 Walingford). By his wife Isabel, sister to Nicholas Jordan, he had 6 sons,—

- (1) John Finch, of Redbourne, of whom presently.
- (2) Nicholas Finch.
- (3) Thomas Finch.
- (4) Walter Finch.
- (5) Robert Finch.
- (6) William Finch, of Watford, of whom presently.

JOHN FINCH, of Redbourne, gent. married Christian Peacock, of Finchley, Co. Middlesex, by whom he had six sons and two daughters, all of whom are recorded in the Visitation Records of the Counties of Hertford and Surrey.

These sons were :—

- (1) Thomas Finch, of St. Michaels near St. Albans, who married Dorothy Brewer, of Markett, Co. Herts.
- (2) Walter Finch, of Croydon, Co. Surrey, who is buried in the Chancel of Croydon Church (W.D. 10-10-1625 ; W.P. 9-11-1626 - P.C.C. 125 Hele).
- (3) Richard Finch, of Redbourne.
- (4) Francis Finch, of London.

(5) William Finch, of St. Albans.

(6) Robert Finch of Redbourne.

His two daughters were : Elizabeth and Anne.

WILLIAM FINCH, of Watford (son of John Finch, of Redbourne, by his wife, Isabel Jordan), died in 1534. He left no Will, and Letters of Administration were taken out in the St. Albans Court on 10th July 1534 (fo : 228, Walingford). By his wife, Alice Franklyn, who was buried at Watford on 17th August 1556, he had two sons, and a daughter Elizabeth, who married Halsey als Chambers.

The two sons were :—

(1) William Finch, of whom presently.

(2) John Finch, of Watford, s. 4-1-1572-3 in Watford Churchyard (W.D. 1-1-1572-3 ; W.P. 4-3-1572-3—fo : 32 Fankilcaster). By his wife, Isabel, he had three sons,—(1) William Finch, b. 19-1-1555, m. 16-11-1577 to Isabel Mulnes ; (2) John Finch ; (3) Thomas Finch, and a daughter Elizabeth, who married Nicholas Colborne, at Watford, on 30-11-1579.

WILLIAM FINCH, of Watford (son of William Finch and Alice Franklyn), was s. in Watford Churchyard on 22-3-1576-7 (W.D. 2-4-1576 ; W.P. 23-4-1577—fo : 23 Clapton). By his wife, who was buried at Watford 22-10-1563, he had one son and three daughters. The daughters were,—Alice, who married Roger Ewer on 2-7-1561, (2) Mary, who was married at Northall 31-7-1564 to Robert Bateman, and (3) Sybil, who married twice (a) James Pavior and (b) Richard Cuppidge. His son was :—

WILLIAM FINCH, of Watford, b. there 10-5-1544, s. at Watford 1613. (W.D. 17-7-1613 ; W.P. 4-9-1613—fo : 41 Dainty). He married at Harrow-on-the-Hill on 17-10-1570 Rose Edlin, by whom he had four sons and three daughters.

The sons were :—

(1) William Finch, who married Amy Baldwin, at Rickmansworth, on 31-1-1598-9, by whom he had two sons : (1) John Finch, b. 15-2-1606 ; (2) Jonathan Finch, b. 2-6-1611, and three daughters, Bethia, Lydia and Sarah.

(2) Edward Finch, of Willesden (SEE PEDIGREE OF FINCH OF WILLES-DEN).

(3) John Finch, b. 17-1-1579-80.

(4) Ralph Finch, of whom presently.

And the daughters were :—

(1) Audrey, m. 23-11-1590 Edward Baker ; (2) Rose, who married Thomas Tanner, and their son Ezekiel Tanner witnessed the Will of Edward Finch of Willesden and (3) Judith, m. 8-6-1609 William Atwick (they resided at Staines, Co. Middlesex, where he died in 1620 (W.P. 11-8-1620—P.C.C. 80 Soame).

William Finch's widow, Rose Finch (née Edlin) was buried near her husband in Watford Churchyard 1-5-1630 (W.D. 13-4-1630 ; W.P. 22-5-1630—fo: 204 Dainty).

RALPH FINCH, of Watford (youngest son of William and Rose Finch), was born at Watford 13-9-1584, and subsequently resided at Slyce Hill. He was buried

at Watford 9-4-1622 (W.D. 15-3-1621-2 ; W.P. 11-5-1622—fo : 131 Dainty). He married at Watford 27-1-1607-8 Emma, dau : of George Baldwin of Watford, gent, by whom he had six sons, and three daughters. The sons were :—

- (1) William Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) Obediah Finch.
- (3) Isaac Finch.
- (4) Ralph Finch.
- (5) John Finch.
- (6) Col : Simon Finch, of Kilcoleman, Co. Tipperary, s. in Nenagh Church, M.I. (W.D. 8-1-1684-5 ; W.P. 12-1-1686-7—P.C.C. 5 Foot). He was born at Watford 6-10-1619, and married Mary, dau : of Peter Daniell of Tabley, Co. Chester. She died 26-1-1678-9, aged 58. M.I. in Nenagh Church. Col : Simon Finch left no issue, and his nephew, Edward Finch, inherited his estates. The daughters were Elizabeth, Sarah, and Rose.

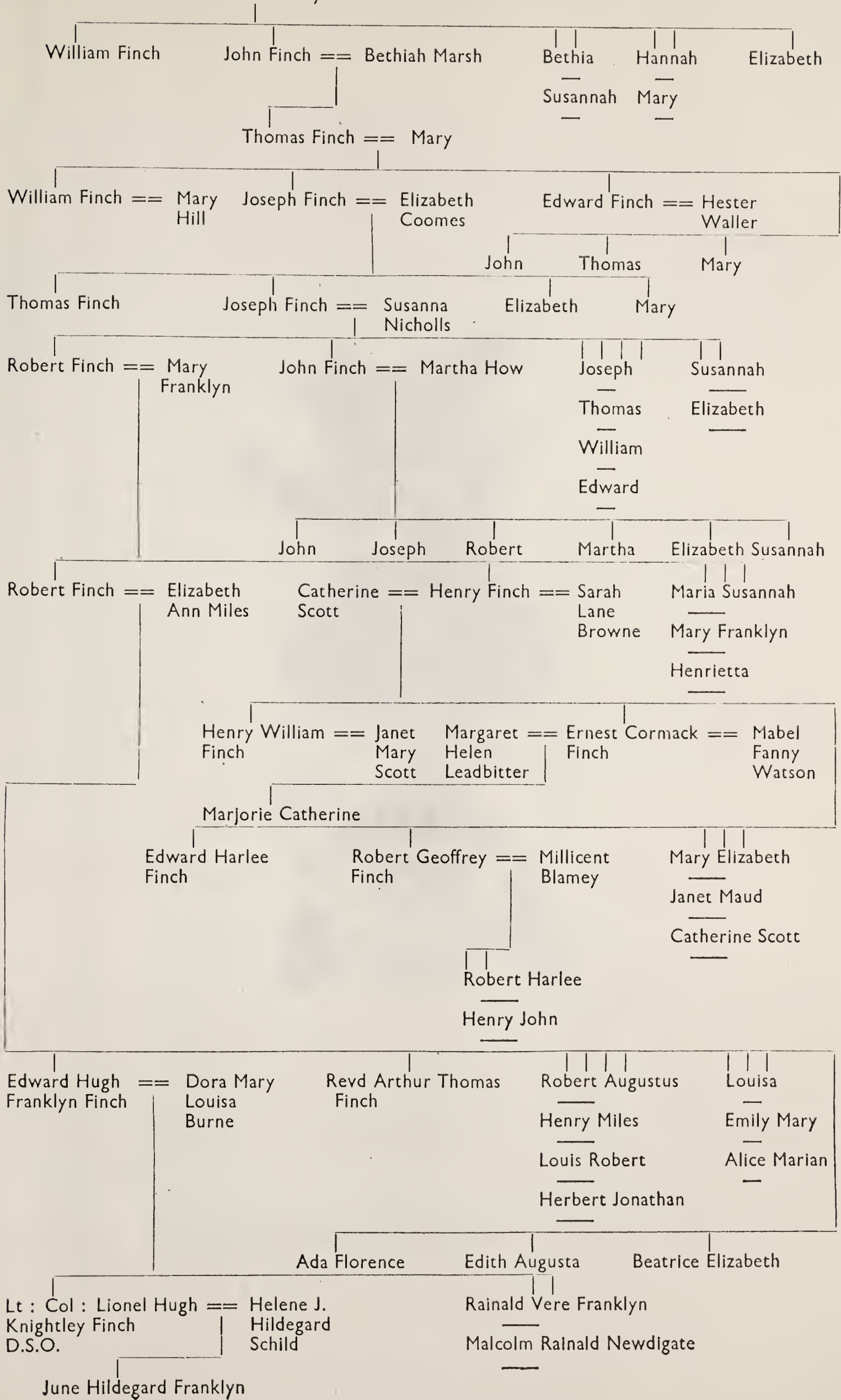
WILLIAM FINCH, of Watford, gent. (son of Ralph Finch and Emma Baldwin) resided at Slyce Hill. b. at Watford 28-7-1612, s. there 12-2-1652-3 (W.D. 5-2-1652-3 ; W.P. 13-5-1653—P.C.C. 158 Brent). He married Elizabeth, dau : of George Baldwin, by whom he had four sons :—

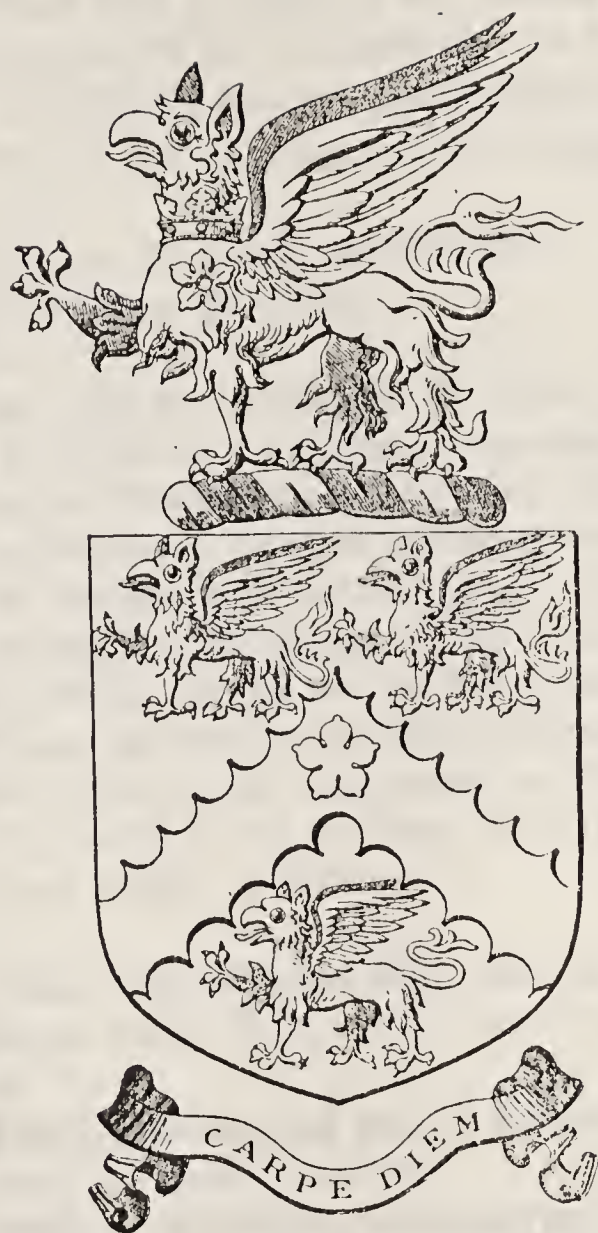
- (1) John Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) Ralph Finch, of Chester, b. 2-10-1632 at Watford, sole heir to his uncle, Col : Simon Finch. He married Elizabeth, dau : of William Daniell, of Chester, but dying s.p. in 1685 before his uncle, the estates went to his brother, Edward.
- (3) Edward Finch, of Kilcoleman, Co. Tipperary (SEE PEDIGREE OF FINCH OF KILCOLEMAN).
- (4) Jonathan Finch, s. at Watford 24-12-1670 (W.D. 20-12-1669 ; W.P. 17-1-1670-1—fo : 123 Hickman). By his wife, Lucy, who was buried at Watford, 6-10-1653, he had three sons, John, Jonathan and William, and three daughters, Mary, Lucy, and Amy.

JOHN FINCH, of Watford, and of Staple Inn, London (son of William Finch and Elizabeth Baldwin) was buried in Watford Church 16-6-1651. By his wife, Elizabeth, who was buried in Watford Church (W.D. 20-1-1675-6 ; W.P. 18-1-1768-9—fo : 157 Hickman), he had two sons and a daughter Elizabeth. The sons were :—

- (1) Charles Finch, of Redheath (SEE PEDIGREE OF FINCH OF RED-HEATH).
- (2) John Finch, of Watford, gent., b. 4-10-1640, ob 1696. (W.D. 19-4-1696 ; W.P. 6-8-1696—fo : 89 Eling). He had three sons and three daughters. The sons were (1) William Finch, Citizen and Leather-seller in London ; (2) Charles Finch, and (3) Jonathan Finch ; and the daughters were,—Mary, Lucy, and Hannah.

Edward Finch == Lucy Anderson





CHAPTER 26

FINCH OF WILLESDEN, CO. MIDDLESEX

EDWARD FINCH, of Willesden, Co. Middlesex (son of William Finch of Watford, by his wife Rose Edlin, of Harrow), was born at Watford 14th July 1577, and died in 1620. In his Will he desired to be buried in Watford Churchyard (W.D. 3-2-1619-20 ; W.P. 21-4- 1620—D and C of St. Paul's—fo : D. 178). By his wife, Lucy Anderson, who survived him and was executrix of his Will, he had two sons and five daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) William Finch, b. 22-4-1606 at Willesden.
- (2) John Finch, of whom presently.

The daughters were :—

Bethia, b. 6-1-1607-8 ; Hannah, b. 28-7-1611 ; Elizabeth, b. 24-10-1613 ;
Susannah, b. 26-5-1616 ; and Mary who died young.

JOHN FINCH (son of Edward Finch and Lucy Anderson), was baptised at Willesden, 30-7-1618, and inherited lands at Willesden and Acton under his father's Will. He was buried at Willesden 17-5-1675 (W.D. 6-5-1672 ; W.P. 20-5-1675—P.C.C. 46, Dycer). He married at Willesden on 26-7-1658 Bethiah Marsh (she was buried at Willesden 21-1-1677), and by her he had a son :

THOMAS FINCH (son and heir to his father) buried at Kingsbury, Co. Mddx. 10-2-1748-9. By his wife, Mary, who was buried at Kingsbury 16-1-1757 (W.D. 5-12-1751 ; W.P. 17-1-1757—P.C.C. 12 Herring), he had five sons and a daughter, Mary, who married Robert Waller of Bushey.

The sons were :—

- (1) William Finch, who married Mary Hill, by whom he had a son, the Revd. William Finch, D.D., of St. John's College, Oxford.
- (2) John Finch.
- (3) Thomas Finch, who married Rachel Betteridge.
- (4) Joseph Finch, of whom presently.
- (5) Edward Finch, of Willesden, who married at Bushey 10-4-1741, Hester Waller, and was buried at Kingsbury 20-3-1742-3 (W.D. 11-3-1742-3 : W.P. 7-7-1743—D and C of St. Paul's, M. 30).

JOSEPH FINCH (son of Thomas and Mary Finch), of Harlesden Green, in the Parish of Willesden, gent., born 1717, s. at Kingsbury 12-11-1776, (W.D. 17-9-1776 ; W.P. 22-11-1776—P.C.C. 458 Bellas). By his wife, Elizabeth Coomes, of Hendon (she was buried at Kingsbury 11-5-1790 aged 70), he had two sons and two daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Thomas Finch, b. 19-10-1745, ob. 1808, sole executor of his Father's Will, who had a son, Joseph Finch of Kensal Green.
- (2) Joseph Finch, of whom presently.

The daughters were :—

- (1) Elizabeth, b. 13-10-1746, m. Walter Shropshire.
- (2) Mary, b. 24-8-1755, m. Daniel Lott, of Twyford.

JOSEPH FINCH (younger son of Joseph Finch and Elizabeth Coomes), was of Dolleys Hill, in the Parish of Willesden, gent. He was born 6-1-1750, s. 29-12-1823 (W.D. 5-5-1823 ; Codicil 25-10-1823 ; W.P. 16-1-1824—P.C.C. 19 Erskine). By his wife, Susanna Nicholls (who died 30-3-1803, aged 52), he had seven sons and two daughters, Susanna and Elizabeth.

The sons were :—

- (1) Joseph Finch, b. 14-2-1773, ob. 4-7-1804.
- (2) John Finch, of Lawrence Street, Hendon, b. 21-9-1774, ob. 5-7-1819. By his wife, Martha How, who died 17-10-1865, aged 76, he had three sons and three daughters, viz :—John Finch, b. 1809, ob. 31-1-1836 ; Joseph Finch, b. 1817, ob. 10-3-1886 at Calcutta ; Robert Finch, b. 1818, ob. 1842 ; Martha, who married Thomas Jones, and died 5-4-1865 aged 54 ; Susannah and Elizabeth, who died 4-5-1829 aged 14.
- (3) Thomas Finch, b. 15-7-1778, ob. 16-2-1800.
- (4) William Finch, b. 25-10-1782, ob. 5-11-1783.
- (5) Edward Finch, b. 26-10-1786 ; ob. 29-3-1802.
- (6) Robert Finch, of whom presently.
- (7) Henry Finch, ob. 6-10-1811.

ROBERT FINCH (son of Joseph Finch and Susanna Nicholls), of His Majesty's Mint, gent ; b. 1-2-1789, s. at Willesden 18-7-1832. He married at Willesden on 8-8-1820, Mary Franklyn (she died 3-4-1887 aged 87), by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Robert Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) Henry Finch, of whom presently.

The daughters were :—

Maria Susanna, b. 8-8-1826, m. 6-5-1862, Thomas Pearse, and ob. 7-11-1910 ; Mary Franklyn, m. 4-6-1842 Robert Charles Jenkins, and Henrietta, ob. 3-4-1872.

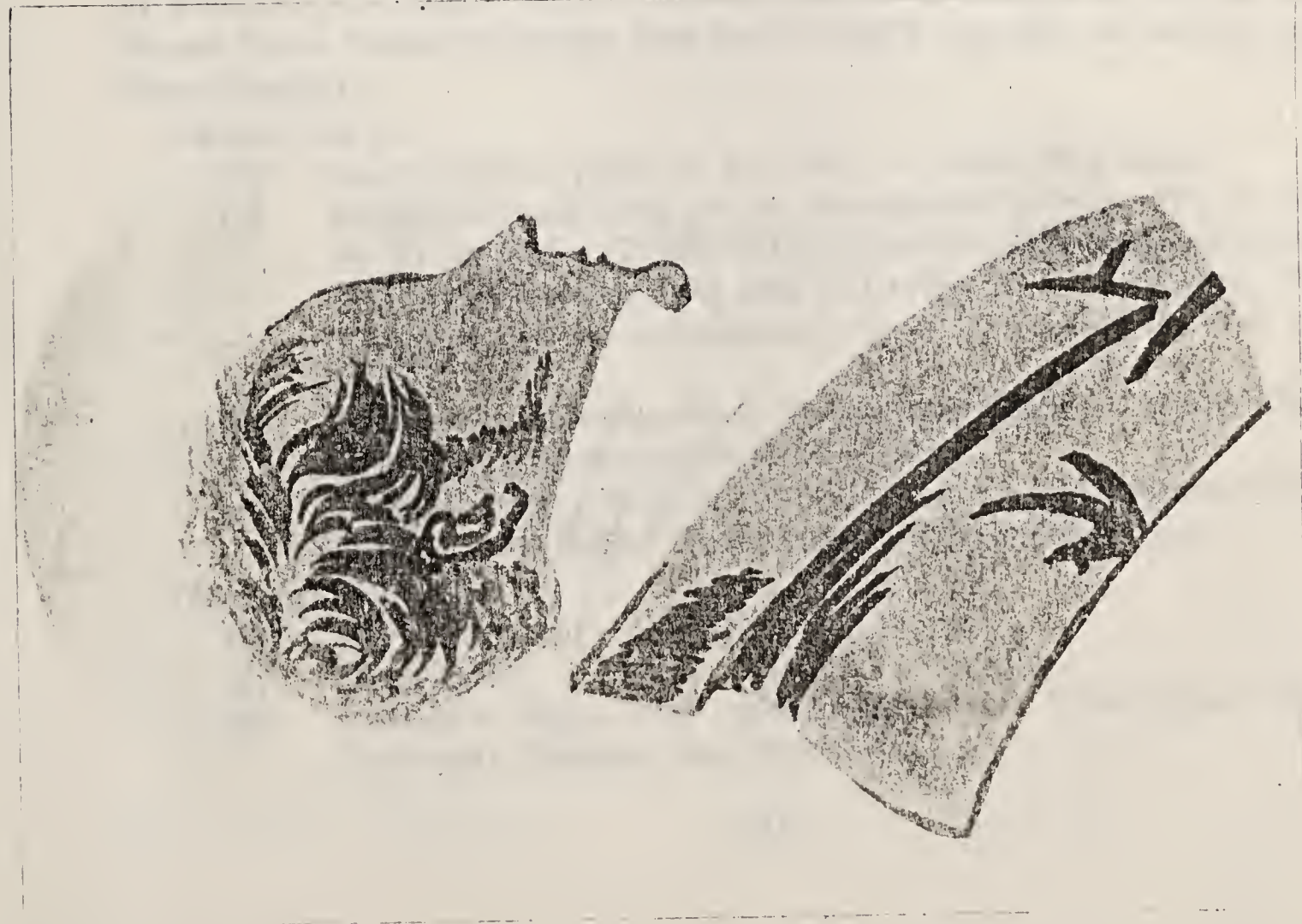
ROBERT FINCH (elder son of Robert Finch and Mary Franklyn), was Rector of Pangbourne, b. 1-4-1829, ob. 12-4-1910. He married Elizabeth Ann Miles (she died 2-10-1883 aged 58), by whom he had six sons and six daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Robert Augustus Finch, b. 1852, ob. 1931.
- (2) Henry Miles Finch, b. 1856, ob. 1927.
- (3) Capt. Edward Hugh Franklyn Finch, of whom presently.
- (4) Revd. Arthur Thomas Finch, now of Kingsclere Vicarage, Newbury, Berks, b. 3-11-1860, m. F. M. S. Dunlop.
- (5) Louis Robert Finch, b. 10-6-1862 ; ob. 23-4-1882. (Lieut. 1st Batt : Border Regt.).



Lt. Col. L. H. K. FINCH, D.S.O.



ROBERT FINCH ESQUIRE
OF WILLESDEN.

- (6) Herbert Jonathan Finch, b. 11-8-1869 ; m. Margaret Elizabeth Morgan, and ob. 1925.

The daughters were :—

- (1) Louisa ; ob. 22-2-1862.
- (2) Emily Mary (now of St. Michael's Lyndhurst, Hants).
- (3) Alice Marion, m. E. D. L. Osborne Esq.
- (4) Ada Florence, m. Surg. Major R. M. Cowie.
- (5) Edith Augusta, m. Revd. J. F. Rowley (now of Tresilian, Topsham, Devon).
- (6) Beatrice Elizabeth, who died at Rhyl, N. Wales, 24-8-1871.

CAPT. EDWARD HUGH FRANKLYN FINCH (3rd son of Robert Finch and Elizabeth Ann Miles), b. 17-3-1857 ; ob. 9-2-1907. He married Dora Mary Louisa Burne, grand-daughter of William Leonard, 2nd Viscount Sidmouth, on 17-3-1887, by whom he had three sons, viz :—

- (1) Lieut.-Col. Lionel Hugh Knightley Finch, D.S.O., b. 18-7-1888; m. at St. George's, Hanover Square, on 22-1-1919, Helene J. Hildegard Schild, of Nijmegen, Holland, by whom he has a daughter, June Hildegard Franklyn Finch ; b. 12-10-1922.
- (2) Reginald Vere Franklyn Finch, ob infans.
- (3) Malcolm Rainald Newdigate Finch, ob infans.

HENRY FINCH (younger son of Robert Finch and Mary Franklyn), Barrister-at-Law ; b. 9-9-1831 ; ob. 1913. He married twice (1) 5-2-1868, and (2) 22-2-1881. There was no issue by his second wife, Sarah Lane Browne, d. of Lieut.-Col. Browne, of Breaghwy, Co. Mayo. By his first wife, Catherine Scott, d. of William Scott, of Kensal Manor House, Willesden (she died 16-8-1879 aged 38), he had four sons and three daughters.

The sons are :—

- (1) Henry William Finch, b. 2-1-1869 ; m. Janet Mary Scott.
- (2) Ernest Cormack Finch (of 106 Westbourne Terrace, W.), b. 4-2-1870, m. (1) 1-6-1905 ; (2) 23-1-1917. By his first wife, Margaret Helen, d. of J. G. Leadbitter Esq. (she died 4-12-1906), he has a daughter, Marjorie Catherine. He married secondly, Mabel Fanny, d. of Dr. J. E. Watson, LL.D.
- (3) Lieut. Edward Harlee Finch (Royal Scots Fusiliers), b. 5-8-1876, killed in action at Frederickstaad, 21-10-1900.
- (4) Robert Geoffery Finch, b. 9-2-1879, who married Millicent Blaney, and has two sons, Robert Harlee Finch, and Henry John Finch.

The daughters are :—

- (1) Mary Elizabeth.
- (2) Janet Maud.
- (3) Catherine Scott, who married the Revd. Worthington Jukes, of Shobrooke Rectory, Co. Devon.

FINCH OF KILCOLEMAN, CO. TIPPERARY

(see Finch of Watford)

Edward Finch == Margaret Purdon

Simon Finch

William Finch == Anne Massy

Eleanor

Edward Finch

Alice

Edward Finch ==

Anne O'Dwyer

John Finch ==

Phoebe Brown

William

William Finch ==

Frances Coales

Daniel
—
Edward
—
John

Frederick
—
Hugh

George Finch == Anne Parker

Eliza

Anne

William Finch ==

Marcella Singleton

John Brown ==

Maria Singleton

Eleanor
—
Alice

Charles Singleton
Finch ==

Anna Maria Boyce

Frederick Hugh
Finch ==

Lucinda Greene

William Charles
Finch ==

Alice Maud Murphy

Emma Marcella
—
Marcella Singleton

Aileen Maude ==

Claude Davies
(assumed arms and
surname of Finch)

Captn William Heneage
Finch O.B.E. ==

Cecil
Harriet
Beatrice
Birmingham

William

Alice

Simon

Bethia

Lucinda

Hugh Claude

Margaret Patricia Rose

George Massy ==

Margaret Franks Bevan

Barbara Brady ==

Hugh Frederick
Finch ==

Mary Sexton

John Finch ==

Anna Elizabeth Seymour

Edward Bevan
Finch.

John Finch ==

Maria Elizabeth Russell

Elizabeth

Phoebe Frances

Barbara

George William ==

Maria Frances Ayre

Ethel

Mary Louisa

Frederick Thomas
m. Alice Westropp

Anne

Catherine

George
m. Elizabeth Langford

Hugh Heneage ==

Amy Margaret Sandes

Otho Finch ==

Florence Hilda Lucas

George

Harry

William

Desmond Otho Fitzgerald

Hugh Arthur Heneage

Frederick



FINCH OF KILCOLEMAN, CO. TIPPERARY

EDWARD FINCH, of Kilcoleman, Co. Tipperary (son of William Finch of Watford, by his wife Elizabeth Baldwin), was nephew of Col : Simon Finch. He died 7-4-1726, aged 49 ; s. in Nenagh Church, M.I. By his wife, Margaret, d. of George Purdon, of Tinnerana, Co. Clare, he had three sons and two daughters.

The sons were :—

- (1) Simon Finch, ob. s.p. (W.D. 10-4-1744 ; W.P. 15-12-1758).
- (2) Edward Finch, ob. 13-1-1728, aged 10 ; s. in Nenagh Church, M.I.
- (3) William Finch, of whom presently.

The daughters were :—

Alice, s. in Nenagh Church, July 1723, and Eleanor, who married Anthony Hickman, of Ballykat, Co. Clare.

WILLIAM FINCH, of Cork (son of Edward Finch and Margaret Purdon), married Anne, d. of William Massy, of Glenville, Co. Limerick, by whom he had six sons. They were :—

- (1) Edward Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) William Finch, of Maryville, Co. Limerick, who married Mary, d. of Godfrey Massey, of Duntrileague, Co. Limerick, and ob. s.p.
- (3) John Finch, of whom presently.
- (4) Frederick Finch, ob. unm.
- (5) Hugh Finch, ob. unm.
- (6) George Finch, of Kilcoleman, J.P. and D.L. for Tipperary, who married Annie, d. of Anthony Parker, of Castlelough, Co. Tipperary, and died 22-11-1832, s.p. aged 64, M.I. Nenagh Church.

EDWARD FINCH, of Tullamore Park (son of William Finch and Anne Massy), was heir to his uncle, Simon. He died in August 1843. He married Anne, d. of Daniel O'Dwyer, of Tullagheady, Co. Tipperary, by whom he had four sons and two daughters, Eliza and Anne. The sons were :—

- (1) William Finch, of Tullamore Park, ob. 17-4-1864, s.p. He married Frances, d. of Philip Coales, of Bath.
- (2) Daniel Finch, ob. 11-7-1864, s.p.
- (3) Edward Finch, Capt. in the Life Guards, m. Jane Wylde-Browne, of Caughley, Co. Salop, and ob. s.p. in 1870.
- (4) John Finch.

JOHN FINCH, of The Abbey, Co. Limerick (son of William Finch and Anne Massy), married Phoebe, d. of John Brown, of Clonboy, Co. Limerick, by whom he had three sons and two daughters, Eleanor and Alice. The sons were :—

- (1) William Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) John Brown Finch, of whom presently.

(3) Hugh Frederick Finch, of whom presently.

WILLIAM FINCH, of Kilcoleman (son of John Finch and Phoebe Brown), married Marcella, d. of Edward D'Alton Singleton, of Quinville, Co. Clare, the widow of Henry Vereker D'Esterre, who was killed by Dan O'Connell, in a duel on 1st May 1815, and by her he had three sons :—

(1) John Finch, ob. s.p. 18-2-1879.

(2) Frederick Hugh Finch, of whom presently.

(3) Charles Singleton Finch, of whom presently.

FREDERICK HUGH FINCH, of Clareena, Nenagh, died on 14th April 1909 aged 77, and was buried in Nenagh Church, M.I. By his wife, Lucinda Greene, he had a daughter Lucinda, who married Lieut.-Col. John Rolleston Wolfe, of Nenagh, and a son,—

Capt. William Heneage Finch, O.B.E. (3rd Batt. Manchester Regt.), now of Cloghonan, Welwyn, Herts, who married on 1st October 1898 Cecil Harriet Beatrice Birmingham, d. of W. C. B. Otway-Ruthven Esq., by whom he has a daughter, Margaret Patricia Rose, wife of R. H. Lowry Carden Esq., of Fishmoyne, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

CHARLES SINGLETON FINCH, of Kilcoleman, Co. Tipperary (son of William and Marcella Finch) was J.P. for Co. Tipperary ; b. 1836, ob. 12-1-1916, M.I. Nenagh Church. He married in April 1859 Anna Maria, d. of Thomas Boyce, of Tivoli, Co. Cork (she died 23-3-1922, aged 89), M.I. Nenagh Church, by whom he had one son and two daughters. The son is :—

Capt. William Charles Finch, b. March 1862, who married Alice Maude, d. of Edward Cavanagh Murphy, of Stream Hill Cork, by whom he has a daughter, Aileen Maude, wife of Claude Finch-Davies (son of Gen : Sir William Davies), who assumed the additional surname of Finch on his marriage. They have five children,—William, Simon, Hugh Claude, Alice and Bethia.

The two daughters of Charles Singleton Finch are :—

(1) Emma Marcella, who married in February 1890, Henry Cochrane Esq.

(2) Marcella Singleton.

JOHN BROWN FINCH (son of John Finch and Phoebe Brown), of Clonmaken, Co. Limerick and Creagh Castle, Co. Cork, married Maria, d. of Edward D'Alton Singleton, of Quinville, Co. Clare, by whom he had a son, George Massy Finch, late of Bloomfield, Newport, Co. Limerick, J.P. for Tipperary ; b. 19-8-1839, ob. 27-8-1895 who married Margaret Franks, d. of Joseph Bevan, of Glenbevan, Co. Limerick, by whom he had two sons,—

(1) John Finch, of Bloomfield ; b. 29-5-1864 ; m. 5-4-1899, Anna Elizabeth Seymour.

(2) Edward Bevan Finch, b. 16-2-1869.

HUGH FREDERICK FINCH (son of John Finch and Phoebe Brown), of Maryville, Co. Limerick, married twice. By his wife, Barbara, d. of Capt. Hugh Brady, of Moynoe, Co. Clare, he had a son John Finch, who was of Tullamore (b. 1828), and



KILCOLEMAN, CO., TIPPERARY.

married Maria Elizabeth, d. of Richard Russell, of Ballinacarriga, Co. Limerick, by whom he had two daughters, Ethel and Mary Louisa, who on 29th April 1893, married Simon Dring Esq., of Glen Garra, Co. Cork. The children of Hugh Frederick Finch by his wife, Mary, d. of George Sexton, of Coonagh, Co. Limerick, are :—

- (1) George William Finch, of whom presently.
- (2) Frederick Thomas Finch ; m. 1882, Alice, d. of Revd. Thomas Westropp, Rector of Ardcanny, Co. Limerick.
- (3) George Finch, who married Elizabeth Langford.
And two daughters, Anne, and Catherine.

GEORGE WILLIAM FINCH, of Maryville (son of Hugh Frederick Finch and Mary Sexton), was J.P. for Co. Limerick, and Hon : Col : Limerick County Militia. He died on 24th September 1907. By his wife, Maria Frances, d. of John Francis Ayre Fitz-Gerald, of Glyn, he had six sons,—

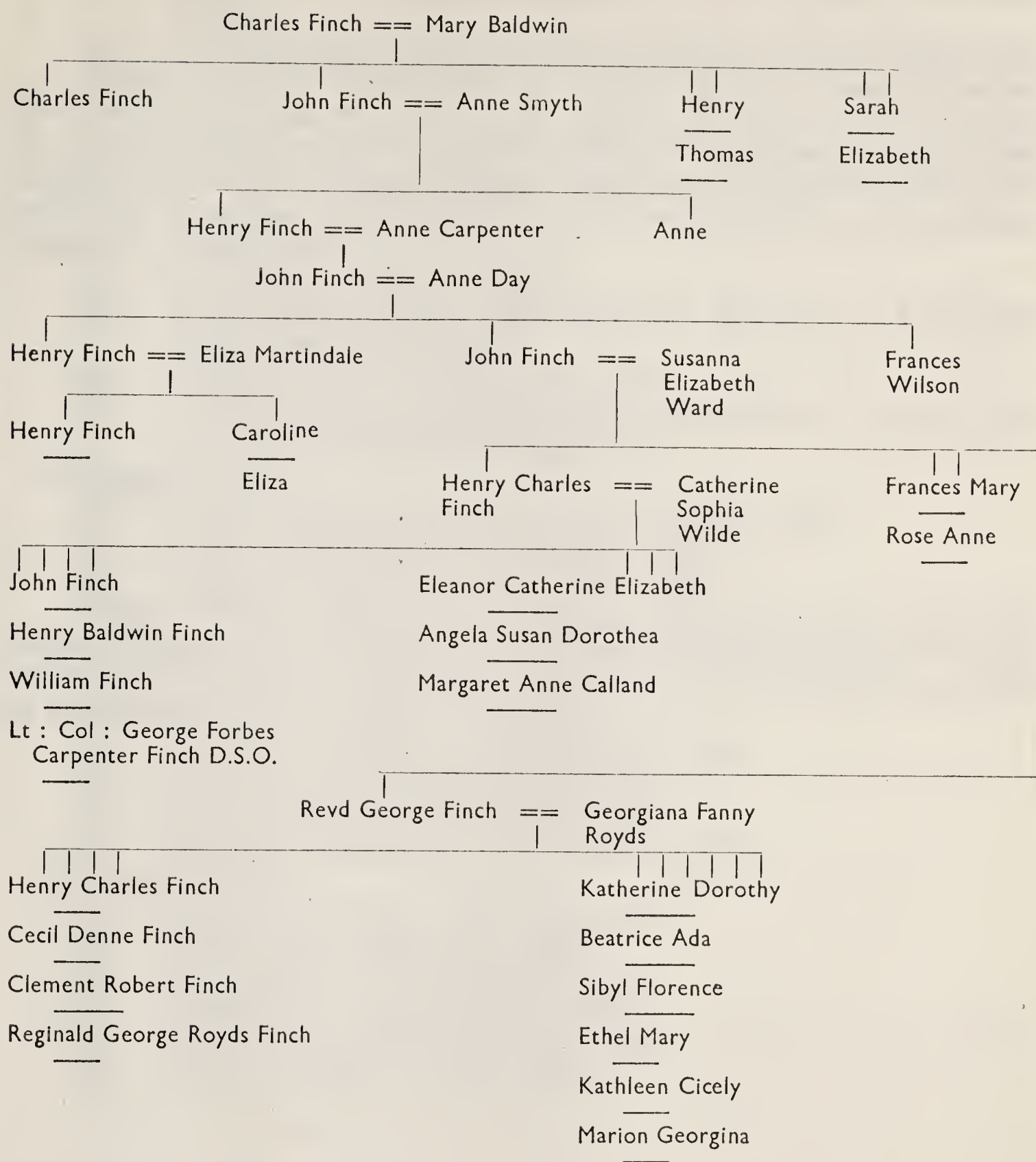
- (1) Hugh Heneage Finch, J.P. of Maryville, Capt : R.A., served in Ashanti, and N. Nigeria ; b. 1871 ; m. in 1906 Amy Margaret, d. of Thomas William Sandes, of Sallow Glen, Co. Kerry, Esq., J.P.
- (2) Otho Finch, of whom presently.
- (3) George Finch.
- (4) Henry Finch.
- (5) William Finch.
- (6) Frederick Finch.

OTHO FINCH (son of George William Finch and Maria Frances FitzGerald), now of Tullamore, Waldron, Co. Sussex, was born in 1873, and married in 1909, Florence Hilda, daug. of Joseph Lucas, of Fox Hunt Manor, Co. Sussex, Esq., J.P., by whom he has two sons,—

- (1) Desmond Otho FitzGerald Finch, b. 1910.
- (2) Hugh Arthur Heneage Finch, b. 1912.

FINCH OF RED HEATH

(see Finch of Watford)



And the daughters were :—

(1) Frances Mary, who married on 3rd March 1859, the Revd. John David Glennie.

(2) Rose Anne, who married on 30th June 1864, Henry Francis Manley, Esq.

HENRY CHARLES FINCH (elder son of John Finch and Susanna Elizabeth Ward), of Redheath, Esq, M.A. Trin : Coll : Oxford, Barrister-at-Law of Lincoln's Inn, J.P. for Co. Herts, was born on 16th July 1833, and married on 29th April, 1868, Catherine Sophia, dau : of Henry Sedgwick Wilde, Esq, and grand-daughter of Sir John Wilde, brother to Lord Chancellor Truro, by whom he has four sons and three daughters. The sons are :—

(1) John Finch, b. 18th April 1870.

(2) Henry Baldwin Finch, b. 29th September 1871 (now of 6 Belvidere Terrace, Millbrook, Jersey).

(3) William Finch, b. 15th September 1872.

(4) Lieut.-Col : George Forbes Carpenter Finch, D.S.O., b. 16th May 1874 (now of Ockwells, Budleigh Salterton).

The daughters are :—

(1) Eleanor Catherine Elizabeth, b. 13th September 1876.

(2) Angela Susan Dorothea, b. 16th August 1878.

(3) Margaret Anne Calland, b. 13th July 1880.

REVD. GEORGE FINCH, M.A. Oxford (younger son of John Finch and Susanna Elizabeth Ward), was born on 1st November 1835. He married on 9th July 1867 Georgiana Fanny, dau : of the Revd. C. L. Royds, Vicar of Aldenham, by whom he had four sons and six daughters. The sons are :—

(1) Henry Charles Finch, b. 9th December, 1869.

(2) Cecil Denne Finch, b. 25th March 1871.

(3) Clement Robert Finch, b. 2nd July 1872.

(4) Reginald George Royds Finch, b. 22nd May 1876.

The daughters are :—

(1) Katherine Dorothy, b. 18th August 1874.

(2) Beatrice Ada, b. 8th August 1878.

(3) Sibyl Florence, b. 31st December 1880 .

(4) Ethel Mary, b. 22nd November 1882.

(5) Kathleen Cicely, b. 15th February 1885.

(6) Marion Georgina, b. 4th July 1887.

CHAPTER 29

MISCELLANEA GENEALOGICA

Arms in Visitation of Kent 1663-68.

Quarterly 1 and 4. Argent, a chevron between three griffins passant Sable (Finch) 2. Sable, A fess between three pelicans vulning themselves Or (Passenden) 3. Argent, six lozenges conjoined 3 and 3 fess-wise Azure. (Crall).
Arms of Wynne-Finch (of Voelas, co., Denbigh).

Quarterly 1 and 4 Finch 2 and 3 Gules, a lion rampant Argent (Wynne).

Finch-Hatton, Earls of Winchilsea and Nottingham.

Arms—Quarterly 1 and 4 Azure, a chevron between 3 garbs Or (Hatton) 2 and 3

Argent, a chevron between 3 griffins passant wings endorsed Sable (Finch).

Crest—A pegasus courant Argent winged, maned and hooped Or.

Supporters—Dexter—A pegasus Argent wings mane and hoofs Or ducally gorged of the last. Sinister—A griffin, wings endorsed Sable ducally gorged Or.

Motto—Nil conscire sibi.

Finch (Ireland—Sir Theophilus Finch Knighted by The Earl of Essex Lord Lieutenant 30th July 1599).

Arms—Quarterly 1. Argent a chevron engrailed between three griffins passant Sable 2. Lozengy Argent and Azure 3. Sable, 3 martlets Argent 4. Argent, a saltire engrailed between 4 martlets Sable.

Finch (certified by Preston, Ulster 17 July 1645) To Henry Finch of St. John's parish, Dublin.

Arms—Paly of six Argent and Gules on a chevron Sable three crescents of the first.

Finch of Kilcoleman and Tullamore Co. Tipperary.

Crest—A griffin passant Azure.

Arms—Argent, a chevron Azure between three griffins passant Gules.

Motto—Bono vince malum.

Finch, Earls of Aylesford.

Crest.—On a wreath, a griffin passant Sable.

Arms—Quarterly, 1 and 4. Argent, a chevron between three griffins passant, Sable. 2 and 3 Argent, a chevron vair between three demi-lions rampant, Gules (Fisher).

Supporters—Dexter—A griffin sable ducally gorged Or.

Sinister—A lion Or ducally gorged Azure.

Motto—Aperto vivere voto.

Finch als Herbert (Visitation of 1619-21)

Quarterly of 20 :—1 and 20 Argent, a chevron between three Griffins passant, Sable 2. Sable, a fess between three pelicans vulning themselves Or. (Passenden) 3. Argent, six lozenges conjoined 3 and 3 fess-wise, Azure. (Crall) 4. Sable, three shovellers Argent. (Popleshams) 5. Azure, three eaglets displayed in bend between 2 cotises Or. (Belknap) 6. Gules, a fess comboy counter

compony Argent and Sable between six crosses-crosslet fitchee at the feet of the second. (Boteler) 7. Gules, 2 bars Ermine. (Pantolph) 8. Gules, 2 bends Or. (Sudeley) 9. Bendy of ten Or and Azure (Montefort) 10. Argent and billettee and a lion rampant Sable, crowned Or. (de Lapland) 11. Azure, a fess between six crosses-crosslet Argent. (St. Omer) 12. Gules, a moyle (hornless heifer) within a bordure Argent. (Moyle) 13. Gules, 2 bars Argent in chief 3 plates. (Mooles) 14. Argent, a saltire Sable between 4 estoiles Gules. (Lucomb) 15. Quarterly embattled Argent and Sable (Keyle) 16. Per pale Or and Azure a chevron between three lozenges all counterchanged, on a chief Gules as many martlets of the first (Jordain) 17. Or, a greyhound courant Sable between three leopards faces Azure all within a bordure engrailed Gules (Heneage) 18. Gules, 3 garbs Or. (Preston) 19. Azure, a chevron fretty between 3 goats heads Argent (Buckton).

Crest—A griffin, wings endorsed, Sable.

Arms of Herbert.

Gules, three lions rampant Or.

Arms granted to James Finch of London by Sir Christopher Barker, Garter King of Arms.

Sable, on three bars Or six finches vert beaks and legs purple 3, 2 and 1 on a canton Gules a saltire Argent.

Finch.

Paly of six Argent and Azure on a chief Or a lion passant guardant Sable.

Finch of Dolleys Hill, Willesden Granted 15th September 1825.

Crest—A griffin segreant Azure bezantee wings elevated Or holding between the paws an escutcheon ermine charged with a lion's head erased Sable.

Arms—Azure, on a chevron engrailed ermine between three griffins passant with wings elevated Or a lions head erased Sable between two magpies proper.

Motto—Carpe diem.

Finch, Earls of Winchilsea.

Crest—A pegasus courant Argent winged, maned and hooped Or.

Arms—Argent, a chevron between three griffins passant Sable.

Supporters—Dexter—A pegasus Argent wings mane and hoofs Or ducally gorged of the last. Sinister—A griffin wings endorsed Sable, ducally gorged Or.

Motto—Adversis major par secundis.

Crest, Arms and Supporters of Sir John Finch, Lord Finch of Fordwich.

Crest—A Griffin passant Sable.

Arms—(1) Argent a chevron between 3 griffins passant Sable.

(2) Sable a fess between 3 pelicans vulning themselves Or.

(3) Argent 3 eagles displayed in bend between 2 bendlets Argent.

(4) Gules a fess chequy Argent and sable between 6 crosses patte, fitchee, Argent.

(5) Gules 2 bars ermine.

(6) Or 2 bendlets Gules.

Supporters—Dexter, a pegasus Argent, ducally gorged, wings down the wings and collar Or.

Sinister, a griffin Sable, ducally gorged Or, the wings down.

A CAPE TOWN AND WILLESDEN (MIDDLESEX) FRAGMENT

James Finch, b. 26-6-1816, m. 30-12-1850 Ann South, of Broughton, Pershore, Co. Worcester. He died 25-4-1883, and was interred at Willesden Cemetery. The widow died 11-12-1885, and was interred there also. The sons were :—George, b. 21-1-1852, left home for Cape Town on 29-1-1880 ; Walter Henry, b. 1-5-1854 ; and Charles, b. 17-7-1863. The daughters were :—Sarah Ann, b. 17-7-1863 ; and Jessie Kate, b. 10-8-1861.

A Lancashire record. John Finch of Eccleston.

Of the recusants who were confined in Manchester, those sent to Lancaster were conveyed at the town's expense. There they were brought to trial and capitally convicted. Their execution followed soon afterwards (1585) and their heads were brought to Manchester and placed upon the tower of the Collegiate Church. Among those ill-fated Catholics was John Finch, a native of Eccleston in this County, who, being brought before the Earl of Derby and questioned concerning the Queen's supremacy, fearlessly declared that he acknowledged no authority of Her Majesty over him in spiritual matters, which declaration so much raised the ire of the Earl that he gave him a box with his own hand as punishment for his temerity.

Teddington Church, Middlesex.

13th December 1753. Mrs. Sarah Finch (daughter of George Finch, Esquire) sister of the Countess of Ferrers (Selina, second wife and relict of 1st Earl), buried.

Croydon.

9th December 1632, was buried Sir William Gresham, Knt, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Finch of Kingsdown, Kent.

Tenterden Church—Inscription.

Arms :—a chevron between 3 griffins, impaling a lion rampant debriused by a chevronel.

Here lyeth the body of William Finch, Esquire, of Leigh Green in this Parish, who died the 28th November 1735 aged 74. Here also lyeth the body of Mrs. Thomasine Finch, sister of the above William Finch March 1742 (buried 16th March) in the 80th year of her age.

Arms :—a chevron between 3 griffins passant. In centre chief point a roundel impaling on a chief dancette 3 goats heads erased.

Crest :—a griffin passant.

Here lyeth buried Edward Finch, Esquire, who dyed ye 4th day of May A.D. 1677. He left issue by Thomasine his wife, daughter of Richard Downton of Sandhurst in this County, Esquire, decd., Edward, Richard, William and Thomasine. Thomasine, ye wife, dyed the 14th day of December A.D. 1689 and here buried. Edward ye eldest son of ye said Edward and Thomasine dyed without issue ye 16th September A.D. 1696 and here buried. Edward Finch of Leigh Green only son of the above Richard died 19th March 1780 aged 79 years leaving issue William, Richard, Nicholas, and Elizabeth. William Finch of Leigh Green, son of the above Edward died 30th November 1791 aged 56 years, leaving issue,—Elizabeth, William and Mary.

On the South Wall.

In a vault beneath are the remains of William Finch, Esquire, of Finchden in this Parish, who died 30th November 1794 in the 57th year of his age. Also those of Elizabeth his widow who died 7th February 1824 in the 87th year of her age. Also those of their only son, William Finch, who died 15th September 1804 in the 28th year of his age. Also those of their youngest daughter, Mary Finch, who died 11th November 1847 in the 69th year of her age. Also those of their eldest daughter, Elizabeth Finch, who died 18th August 1851 in 79th year.

St. Michael Pater Noster Royal, London.

On the North side of the Church is a very handsome benefaction table thus inscribed :—

Benefactor.

Mr. James Finch, Citizen and Clothworker, gave, in the year 1508 £10 per annum for ever, for reading divinity in Whittington's College, to be paid by the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers.

Deptford, St. Paul.

North Wall—monument to Mary, dau : of Benjamin and Mary Finch, wife of Richard Hanwell of Oxford, gent, 1754. On the South Wall Matthew Finch, gent, 1745.

Teddington.

13th Decr. 1753. Mrs Sarah Finch (dau : of George Finch Esqre) sister to the Countess of Ferrers (Selina, second wife and relict of 1st Earl) buried.

Monumental Inscription. South Wraxall, Co. Wilts.

In Memory of Mary Finch
Relict of the late James Finch Esqre
of Bradford Leigh
who died March 25th 1845
Aged 83 years.

Underneath
this tablet are laid
the Remains of
Charlotte Finch
niece of the above
James Finch Esqre
who died 21 May 1823
Aged 17.

Near this place
are deposited the remains
of James Finch Esqre
of Bradford Leigh
who died
February 14th 1815
Aged 53 years.

Newenham Church, Co. Herts.

Vicar, 7-10-1713, Richard Finch, M.A. On a flat stone in the South Aisle of the Nave—Arms of Finch impaling on a chief 3 escallops, Crest of Finch. Here lies interred the body of the Rev. Mr. Richard Finch, M.A., who was Vicar of this Parish thirty years, and departed this life on the 12th day of June 1743 in the 67th year of his age.

Here also lies the body of Thomas, his son, who died the 8th day of March 1726, aged 13 months.

Here also lieth on the right hand of the body of Mrs Ann Finch, relict of the late Revd. Mr. Richard Finch, who died the 5th day of October, anno dom. 1744, aetat 48.

From "The Gentleman's Magazine"—Marriage announcements.

Oct. 10th 1784. Mr. W. Mitton, of Doctor's Commons, Attorney-at-Law, to Miss Anna Maria Penrose Finch, of Isleworth.

1787. Mr. Rob Blowing, of the Victualling Office, to Miss Finch of St. Clement's Lane.

11th June 1789. Mr. John Drew, of Burr St, Builder, to Mary Finch, of Lower East Smithfield.

10th Sep. 1790. Wm. Harrison Esq, of the East India House, to Miss Mary Finch, of Crutched Friars.

6th April 1790. Mr. Finch, Coal Merchant, Beaufort Buildings, to Mrs Briscoe, of Duke Street, Westminster.

18th June 1792. Mr. Finch, Attorney, in Sherborne Lane, to Miss Stepney, of White-chapel.

2nd Nov. 1792. Mr. Finch, son of Alderman Finch of Cambridge, to Miss Bently, of N. Cray, Kent.

12th Nov. 1793. Mr. J. S. Tuthill, son of Mr. T. of Norwich, Manufacturer, to Miss Finch, daughter of Peter Finch, Clerk of the Peace for Norfolk.

31st Mch. 1798. At Pancras Church, Mr. Leroux, Surveyor, to Miss Finch, only daug : of the late Rev. Fran. Finch, Curate, of Aldermanbury.

6th June 1798. Rev. Thomas Finch, M.A. Vicar of Barrington, Co. Cambridge, to Miss Sophia Leach, youngest daug : of the late Mr. Barnet Leach.

4th March, 1799. Mr. Finch, Wine merchant, to Miss Rolt, both of Deptford, Kent.

From "The Gentleman's Magazine."—Obituary Notices.

Nov. 8th 1736. Abraham Finch, Merchant, immensely rich, at Stoke Newington.

Feby. 4th 1738. Hen : Finch Esq, at Laughton, Sussex.

Feby. 14th 1738. Hon : and Rev : Dr. Finch, at York.

24th Octr. 1738. William Finch Esq, Director of the South Sea Company, aged 93.

Oct. 26th 1741. Lady of William Finch Esq, Member for Cockermouth. She was sister to the Duke of Queensberry.

Aug. 27th 1743. Adolphus Finch Esq, possessed of £1800 per ann, near Mansfield.

July 19th 1750. Sam. Finch Esq, J. of Peace for Salop.

Dec. 9th 1753. Mrs. Finch, sister to the Countess of Ferrers.

Nov. 13th 1758. William Finch, at Walthamstow.

Feby. 4th 1762. W. Finch, at Cambridge, worth £150,000.

Jany. 16th 1765. Jasper Finch, at Kensington.

Aug. 24th 1767. Robt. Finch, eldest son of Robt. Finch Esq, of Russell Street.

Jany. 22nd 1771. Barnard Finch Esq, at Richmond.

Aug. 3rd 1772. James Finch Esq, in Queen's Square.

March 23rd 1777. Rev. Francis Finch, Aldermanbury.

August, 1785. At Croydon, Mr. John Finch, Ironmonger, of St. Clement's Lane.

Feby. 14th 1788. At Hampstead, aged 80, Mrs. Mary Finch.

23rd Dec. 1791. At Dudley, John Esq, lamented by all who knew him, but more especially by the poor to whom he was a generous benefactor.

21st Sep. 1792. Of an apoplectic fit at Upton Court, Shepherdswell, Kent, aged 68, Mrs. Anne Finch, whose ememplary piety, charity and benevolence endeared her to all her acquaintances.

21st Sept. 1792. Of Apoplexy, Mrs. Finch, of Sybertswould in Kent.

1st March, 1793. Aged 29. Edmund Rolfe Finch Esq, deputy Clerk of the Peace for the County of Norfolk.

13th March, 1796. Mrs. Finch, wife of Dr. Finch, Prebendary of Westminster.

23rd March, 1797. At Bilhopsbourn, Kent, Mr. John Finch.

13th May, 1797. At his home at Kentish Town, Mr. John Finch.

29th April, 1798. At Cambridge in his 76th year, Joshua Finch Esq, Alderman and formerly an eminent ironmonger of that town.

8th Jan. 1800. At Reading, Berks, aged 60, Mrs. Hannah Finch, wife of Mr. Henry Finch.

4th Sept. 1800. At Hoxton Sq, Mrs. Finch, widow of Mr. John F. of Clement's Lane, Lombard St.

30th July 1801. Mrs. Finch, of King St, Covent Garden.

22nd Dec. 1802. At Headington, nr Oxford, R. Finch Esq.

